

ALEKSANDAR BAČKO

SULTANATE OF SULU

NOTES FROM THE PAST AND PRESENT TIMES

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Sultanate of Sulu – Notes from the past and present times

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***Dedicated to
His Majesty
Ampun Sultan
Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram***

***35th Sultan of Sulu
and North Borneo***

***Head of the Royal House of
The Sultanate of Sulu
and North Borneo***

***Grand Sayyid and
Hereditary Sovereign of
The Royal and Hashemite
Order of the Pearl etc. etc.***



INTRODUCTION

The Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo was through most of its history located at the island of Jolo, at the part of Borneo, and numerous other islands, representing the southernmost part of the Philippine Islands and the northernmost part of the Borneo.

It has remarkable history. The Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo is founded in 15th century and remained independent state until 20th century. All of this time, it was ruled by members of one dynasty, which became known by name Kiram.

Current head of The Royal House of The Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo is His Majesty Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram, 35th Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo, Grand Sayyid (Grand Master) and Hereditary Sovereign of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Author

**HIS MAJESTY AMPUN SULTAN
MUEDZUL LAIL TAN KIRAM
OF SULU AND NORTH BORNEO**

His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram, 35th Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo is born on 28. August 1966. in Jolo, Sulu. His Majesty is the oldest son of late Sultan Moh. Mahakuttah A. Kiram of Sulu (reigned 1974–1986) and his first wife Dayang-Dayang Farida Tan-Kiram.

Ancestors of His Majesty Ampun Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram of Sulu and North Borneo, by straight male line, are following: Sultan Moh. Mahakuttah Kiram (father of His Majesty) – Sultan Moh. Esmail E. Kiram (grandfather of His Majesty) - Sultan Mawallil Wasit Kiram - Sultan Jamalul A'Lam - Sultan Moh. Polalun Kiram - Sultan Jamalul Kiram I - Sultan Alimud Din II - Sultan Sharapud Din - Sultan Alimud Din I.

As a child, on 24. May 1974, His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram was crowned as Raja Muda (Crown Prince, heir to the Throne) of the Sultanate of Sulu. It was on the same day, when His Majesty's father was crowned for the Sultan of Sulu. This acts were supported by HE Ferdinand Marcos, President of Republic of Philippines. In official Memo Order 427 issued at that time, it was stated, that "The Government has always recognised the Sultanate of Sulu as the legitimate claimant to the historical territories of the Republic of Philippines". In that way, Sultan Moh. Mahakuttah A. Kiram and (then) Crown Prince Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram became last bearers of these functions, officialy recognized by the Government of Republic of Philippines.

After passing away of late Sultan Moh. Mahakuttah A. Kiram of Sulu and Nort Borneo, His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram became Head of The Royal House of Sulu and North Borneo (Kiram Dynasty), on 16. February 1986.

His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram studied at Universidad de Zamboanga (Zamboanga City, Philippines), becoming Bachelor of Arts. His Majesty continued higher studies in Lahore (Pakistan), during 1995. and 1996.

In 2011, His Majesty used sovereign rights of legal “fons honorum” (fount of honour), by founding The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl of Sulu, and becoming Grand Sayyid (Grand Master) of this distinguished Order.

His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram was crowned as 35th legitimate Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo, on 16. September 2012. Coronation process took place in Mainbung (Sulu), in presence of dignitaries of Sultanate, foreign guests, as well as large number of people of Sulu.

In marriage with Her Majesty Ampun Babai Mellany S. Kiram, His Majesty Ampun Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram has seven children: HRH Raja Muda (Crown Prince) Moh. Ehsan S. Kiram, HRH Datu Nizamuddin S. Kiram, HRH Dayang-Dayang Rahela S. Kiram, HRH Datu Jihad S. Kiram, HRH Datu Mujahid S. Kiram, HRH Dayang-Dayang Redha S. Kiram and HRH Datu Mahakuttah S. Kiram.

His Majesty is also member of highest ranks of distinguished foreign Orders of Chivalry, such as: Grand Cross of The Royal Order of the Drum of Rwanda, Grand Cross of The Order of the Eagle of Georgia and the Seamless Tunic of Our Lord Jesus Christ of Georgia, Grand Cordon of The Imperial Order of the Dragon of Annam of Vietnam, Grand Cordon of The Order of the Ethiopian Lion and Royal Order of the Engabu of The Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara.

**CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE SULTANATE OF SULU
AND THE DUTCH REPUBLIC
AT MID-18th CENTURY**

Introduction

In the history of the Sultanate of Sulu, there was a number of important and often epochal events that have significantly influenced the state system and the people of the island monarchy. Neither the 18th century is no different from other periods of the past of the Sultanate of Sulu. Among the important events during this period were the conflicts of the Sultanate with the Republic of Holland.

Sultanate of Sulu

A number of islands that are surrounding the Sulu Sea, as well as parts of larger islands of Mindanao and Borneo, are the territories that have historically belonged or still belong to the Sultanate of Sulu. This area is populated by Tausug people (or: Joloano, Sulu, Suluk), which mostly belongs to the Islamic religion. Today most of these people lives in Sulu Archipelago (Sulu, Basilan, Tawi - Tawi, and many other smaller islands). There are also Tausugs in other parts of the Philippines: in the city of Manila, as well as on the islands of Palawan, Cebu (Segbu) and Mindanao. There is a certain number of this people in the province of Sabah in Malaysia. At the turn of the 20th in 21st century, there was total number of about 1 100 000 Tausugs. These people speak the language, which belongs to Austronesian language group, more precisely the Central - Philippine languages.¹

Jolo (Sulu) appeared in Chinese historical sources as early as 13th and 14th century. At that time, trade was developed between the islands of Sulu and China. It is

¹ Barbara A. West, *Encyclopedia of the peoples of Asia and Oceania*, New York 2009, 788; Alexander Adelaar, Nikolaus P. Himmelman, *The Austronesian Languages of Asia and Madagascar*, New York 2005, 4 – 5; James J. Fox, Clifford Sather, *Origins, Ancestry and Alliance - Explorations in Austronesian Ethnography*, Canberra 2006, 319 - 331.

considered, that the Islamization of Sulu by the Chinese Muslims and Arabs began in that period.²

Prominent explorer and Islamic religious teacher of Arabic origin, Said Abubakar Abirin, was born in Johor on Malay Peninsula (in the present-day Malaysia). During the first half of the 15th century, he came on the islands of the archipelago of Sulu. There he married a local princess Paramisuli. After the death of his father in law Raj Baguinde, about 1450, Said Abubakar founded the powerful Sultanate of Sulu. As its first sultan, he took the ruler name Sharif Ul - Hashim.³



Sulu Archipelago and North Borneo (detail of the Map of Southeast Asia, 1801).

² Geoffrey C. Gunn, *History Without Borders, The Making of an Asian World Region, 1000 – 1800*, Hong Kong 2011. (further: Gunn), 93.

³ Maria Christine N. Halili, *Philippine history*, Manila 2004. (further: Halili), 52; Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 50, 52, 55; Hilario Milijon Gomez, *The Moro rebellion and the search for peace*, 2000. (further: Gomez), 16; Gunn, 93.

When in the year 1571. Miguel López de Legazpi on behalf of the Spanish crown won Manila, there was a establishment of colonial power in much of the Philippine Islands. However, the Spanish power and influence were not equally represented throughout the archipelago. Military units of the Sultanate of Sulu and Mindanao defeated the Spanish troops and maintain independence in the long term. Also, many mountain areas in the interior of the Philippine Islands remained virtually untouched. Spanish colonies in the Philippines were ruled by the governor, who was responsible to Viceroy of Mexico. The Spaniards considered Philippines, in administrative terms, a branch of its colonies in Latin America.⁴

Dutch Republic

In times of conflict between the Dutch Republic and the Sultanate of Sulu in the 18th century, this European country was a confederate republic and officially called the Republic of the Seven United Netherlands (Dutch: Zeven Verenigde Republiek der Nederlanden). The Dutch Republic was founded in year 1581, after the liberation from Spanish authorities. The Dutch provinces were previously ruled by the Habsburg Spain. In 1568. Dutch people led by William I of Orange (Willem van Oranje) revolted against the Spanish King Philip II of Habsburg. This was the beginning of a very long Eighty Years War (1568 - 1648), also called the War for Dutch independence. In 1580. some of the Dutch provinces signed the Union of Utrecht, which laid foundations for their unification. The formal declaration of independence was signed on 26 July 1581. Spain did not recognize Dutch independence until the signing of a twelve-year truce in 1609.⁵

⁴ Svet u ekspanziji, Ilustrovana istorija sveta I - IV, Treći tom, Beograd - Ljubljana 1984, 242; Emma Helen Blair, The Philippine Islands, 1493-1803 Volume III, 1569-1576, 2006, 3, 5, 11.

⁵ Maarten Prak, The Dutch Republic in the Seventeenth Century - The Golden Age, New York 2005. (further: Prak), 20 - 21; Wouter Troost, William III the Stadholder - King, A Political Biography, 2005, 1 - 2; J. L. Price, The Dutch

Despite to conflicts with the Spaniards, the Dutch in that period were able to develop a very advanced state, in economic, political and military terms. It is the 17th century called the Dutch Golden Age (Dutch: Gouden Eeuw). Netherlands at that time established trade links with many overseas countries and provinces, which further led to the establishment of its colonial policies. In this way, Dutch Republic was ranked among the world powers of 17th century.⁶

The Dutch East India Company (Dutch: West-Indische Vereenigde Compagnie, VOC for short), was established in 1602. At that time, the Dutch parliament awarded the company for the first time a monopoly on 21 years of state colonies in Asia. The Dutch East India Company thus became the second international company in the world, after two years earlier had founded the British East India Company. The Dutch company had primarily commercial function, but it owned and substantial (quasi) state elements, such as the ability to wage war, and negotiates peace, establish new colonies, perform judicial functions (including the execution of convicts), minting money, etc.⁷

East India Company managed the Dutch colonies in what is now Indonesia (Dutch East India), Taiwan, Sri Lanka (Ceylon Dutch), some parts of the Indian subcontinent, South Africa and elsewhere. The first Dutch colonies on the Indonesian islands were established in the early 17th century

Republic in the Seventeenth Century, New York – Hong Kong 1998. (further: Price), 22 – 23, 31; Lionel Bently, Uma Suthersanen, Paul Torremans, Global Copyright - Three Hundred Years Since the Statute of Anne, from 1709. to Cyberspace, 91.

⁶ Prak, 1; Price, 152; R. Po-Chia Hsia, Henk F. K. Van Nierop, Calvinism and Religious Toleration in the Dutch Golden Age, Cambridge 2004, 2, 5, 9, 53, 87, 174.

⁷ Ella Gepken - Jager, Gerard van Solinge, Levinus Timmerman, VOC 1602 - 2002, 400 Years of Company Law, Law of Business and Finance, Vol. 6, Deventer 2005. (further: Gepken - Jager, van Solinge, Timmerman), XII, 47, 54 - 55, 163, 224, 230 - 232, 258.

(in Java Banten in 1603. and Jayakarta or Batavia, on the same island in 1611). Batavia, later Jakarta, was the center of the colonial Dutch East India Company.⁸

The Dutch also founded the West India Company (Dutch: Geoctroyeerde Westindische Compagnie, abbreviated WIC) in 1621. It has administered in the similar way their possessions in South America, the Caribbean, North America and in parts of Africa.⁹

The Spanish Empire

The third important factor in the Sulu - Dutch conflicts was the Spanish Empire. One of the first colonial European powers, began its overseas expansion during the 15th century. When Christopher Columbus in 1492. discovered America, he immediately proclaimed the Spanish rule in the new territory. The so-called Spanish Golden Age (Spanish: El Siglo de Oro) began right after the end of the Reconquista (1492), and the unification of Castile and Aragon. In the early 16th century Habsburgs came to power in Spain. They ruled the country at the time of its greatest progress.¹⁰

During the 16th and 17th century the Spanish were significantly expanding their overseas possessions. They were the leading European colonial power of that period. Under their rule was large part of the South American continent, Central America, as well as substantial parts of North America. From

⁸ Gepken - Jager, van Solinge, Timmerman, 111, 232; Robert Parthesius, Dutch Ships in Tropical Waters - The Development of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) shipping network in Asia 1595 - 1660, Amsterdam 2010. (further: Parthesius), 12 – 13, 46, 114, 119 - 120, 137, 140, 160, 170.

⁹ Gepken - Jager, van Solinge, Timmerman, 67 – 68, 164 - 165, 173, 175.

¹⁰ Chiyo Ishikawa, Spain In The Age Of Exploration, 1492 - 1819, Seattle – Singapore 2004. (further: Ishikawa), 50 – 53, 97; Anthony J. Cascardi, Ideologies of History in the Spanish Golden Age, Pennsylvania State University 1997, 53 – 54, 60.

America, across the Pacific, their power spread to the Philippines. There were also Spanish colonies in Africa. There were some of European countries and regions under the supreme authority of the Spanish crown in certain times, for example: Netherlands, Milan and Kingdom of Sicily.¹¹

Ferdinand Magellan landed in the Philippines in 1521. and declared the supremacy of the Spanish king Charles I of Habsburg over these islands. Magellan was killed shortly after, at Philippine Island Mactan, in conflict with the army led by the local ruler, datu Lapu - Lapu (datu is noble or ruler title in Southeast Asia). Spaniards did not returned to the Philippines until 1543, when they were led by Lopez de Villalobos. Then they actually established their power on the part of the archipelago, which they called after king Philip II of Habsburg.¹²

The background of the conflict

The military conflict between the forces of the Sultanate of Sulu and the Netherlands is necessary to consider in broader historical context. Firstly, it was caused by Dutch colonialism, which was typical for European powers of that time.¹³

Sultanate of Sulu was among rare non-European countries that were strongly resisted European colonialism in the mid-18th century. It controlled the trade routes and waterways in the Sulu Sea and the Celebes Sea, which are linking Sulu Archipelago, north coastal areas of Borneo, southern coast of the island of Mindanao, and rest of Philippine Archipelago. These waterways were of great trading and strategic importance.¹⁴

¹¹ Ishikawa, 23, 50, 60, 87, 89.

¹² Ishikawa, 60; Donald F. Lach, *Asia in the Making of Europe*, Vol. I, *The Century of Discovery*, Book 2, Chicago 1994, 634 – 635, 642 - 643.

¹³ Gepken - Jager, van Solinge, Timmerman, 88, 112; Parthesius, 40, 99.

¹⁴ Gunn, 79, 94, 99, 102, 106, 109, 152.

Long wars and the struggle for colonial supremacy in the East between the Netherlands and Spain, were of great importance for the Dutch - Sulu conflict. These Dutch - Spanish wars were dating, with occasional interruptions, ever since the establishment of the Dutch Republic.¹⁵

There were different kinds of relationships between the Sultanate of Sulu and the Netherlands. It is known that the Dutch in the 17th century attacked Jolo, but at that time as allies of the Sultanate of Sulu. The attack was directed against the Spanish occupation troops, which were located in the Jolo. The Dutch, along with troops of Sulu, in July 1645. conducted a combined artillery and infantry attack on a Spanish fort in the town. This action led to the withdrawal of the Spaniards from Jolo.¹⁶

The course of the conflict

In the period leading up to the clash with the Dutch, Sultan Alimud Din I originally had capital in the island Dungun Tawi - Tawi (Sulu Archipelago). In year 1736, the seat of his court was transferred from there to Jolo, the old capital of Sultanate of Sulu.¹⁷

There are recorded opinions of some historians, whose assurance we could not find in other sources, that in 1744. and 1746. the Dutch East India Company attacked Jolo by cannons from its ships.¹⁸

¹⁵ Gepken - Jager, van Solinge, Timmerman, 162 – 163.

¹⁶ César Adib Majul, Muslims in the Philippines, 1973. (further: Majul), 155; Association of South-East Asian Studies in the United Kingdom (ASEASUK) news, 15 – 19, Centre for South-East Asian Studies, University of Hull, Hull 1994, 38; Gregorio F. Zaide, The Philippines since pre-Spanish times, Volume 2. - The Philippines since the British invasion, Philippine Education Company, 1957, 314; Historical calendar, National Historical Commission, 1970, 121.

¹⁷ Majul, 21.

¹⁸ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Basilan.

In mid-18th century Dutch invaded and occupied Maluso on the island of Basilan in the Sulu Archipelago. Soon after, in 1746, they have established their base in Maluso, the fortress which they called Port Holland.¹⁹

The Dutch attacked Taguima on the island of Basilan in 1747, with two of their ships. Their troops were defeated by one of the commanders of the Sultan of Sulu, known to the sources by name Bantilan. He was able to permanently oust the Dutch East India Company troops from Port Holland. On this occasion, fort was completely burned, but its name is still known as part of the settlement Malusa. The rest of the Dutch withdrew in Batavia on Java.²⁰

Consequences

Shortly after the victory over the Dutch, namely in 1749, datu Bantilan overthrows his elder brother Alimud Din I and became the new Sultan of Sulu. His ruler name was Muizud Din I. The former sultan was forced to withdrew to the Taguima on the island of Basilan, together with members of his immediate family and loyal followers. After that, in 1750, Alimud Din I moved to Manila, where he was greeted with all royal honors. At his return to Sulu, in Zamboanga on Mindanao island, because of the alleged conspiracy, he was captured by the Spaniards, and sent into captivity in Manila, specifically in the local Fort Santiago. Alimud Din I returned on the throne in 1764. and held position of Sultan of Sulu until 1773.²¹

¹⁹ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Basilan; www.muslimmindanao.ph.

²⁰ Congressional edition, 4240, U.S. Congress, 1902. (further: Congressional edition), 178 – 179.

²¹ Halili, 125; Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; Gomez, 21; David P. Chandler, David Joel Steinberg, In search of Southeast Asia, a modern history, University of Hawaii 1987, 94; Congressional edition, 178 – 179; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Basilan.

Because of the decisive struggle Sultanate of Sulu and its people for freedom and independence, the pressure of the Dutch on this monarchy was significantly reduced. The Dutch held their own territory in the Dutch East Indies long after these events, until the Second World War and the period immediately after it.²²

Clashes between the Spaniards and the Sultanate of Sulu continued shortly after this period. Both sides were attacking and devastating the enemy strongholds. Further developments in relations between the Sultanate of Sulu and the Spanish Empire are beyond the scope of this paper.²³

Conclusion

The conflict between the Sultanate of Sulu and the Netherlands in the 18th century had its main roots in the expansionism of the European powers in previous centuries. This expansionism was reflected not only by winning the non-European territories and the capturing of local government and tribal organizations, but also in intense fighting between the colonial powers at the global level. A significant influence on the background of this war had a long, intense conflict of interest between the Netherlands and the Spanish Empire.

During the period of a few years, as the conflict lasted, there were two main phases. The first is the Dutch attack on the Sultanate of Sulu, when the initiative was in the hands of the Dutch East India Company. The culmination of this phase was the establishment of the Dutch fort and base on the island of Basilan. The second phase, in which the forces of the Sultanate of Sulu had the initiative, led to the defeat of the Dutch East

²² Henry E. J. Stanley, *The Philippine islands, Moluccas, Siam, Cambodia, Japan, and China, at the close of the sixteenth century*, London 1868, 361 – 362; Gordon L. Rottman, *World War II, Pacific Island Guide*, 2002, 154, 160, 165, 198.

²³ Halili, 126; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Basilan.

India Company forces in the Sulu archipelago, destruction of Port Holland, expulsion of the Dutch, and minimizing of their impact on the area.

Internally, this conflict to some extent influenced the temporary change of government of Sulu. Only after a number of years, and the great difficulties, Sultan Alimud Din I managed to return to the throne of this island monarchy.

**NOTES FROM THE HISTORY OF
THE SULTANATE OF SULU
DURING THE 19th CENTURY**

-PERIOD OF TEN RULERS-

Introduction

Period of 19th century was in the history of the Sultanate of Sulu very dynamic and marked with various important events. During this century, there was ten Sultans as the heads of state of Sulu. Here will be presented some of the important events, related to their rule in the century of the world's industrial and technological revolution.

The Sultanate of Sulu entered in the 19th Century as ally of the British Empire. This alliance was dating back to the mid 18th century, when the two countries started their joint struggle against the Spanish. The British in the 18th century had their trading post in the Sultanate of Sulu, more precisely at Balambangan island, near the northern coast of Borneo. The Sultan of Sulu issued a permission for its foundation. This outpost was abandoned by 1775, because it was heavily damaged during the frequent pirate attacks.²⁴

Sultan Sharapud-Din

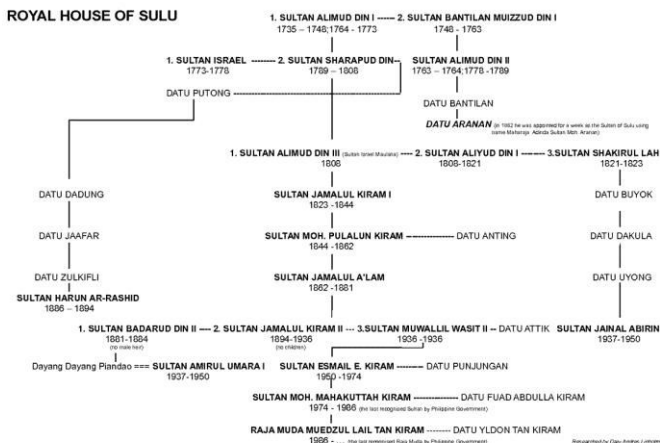
At late 18th and early 19th century the Sultanate of Sulu was under the rule of Sultan Sharapud-Din. He was the head of the country from 1789, until his death, in 1808. He lived to old age. He was the son of Sultan Alimud-Din I. During his reign, namely in 1803, the British renewed their presence on the island Balambangan, but this time in the form of military base. From there, however, they withdrew in November 1805.²⁵

²⁴ Frans Welman, Sabah, Borneo Trilogy, Book One, Volume 1, 2011. (further: Welman), 161; Keat Gin Ooi, Southeast Asia: A Historical Encyclopedia, from Angkor Wat to East Timor, Volume 1, 2004. (further: Ooi), 154; Vic Hurley, Swish of the Kris, the Story of the Moros, 2010 (further: Hurley), 121.

²⁵ The History of Sulu, Division of Ethnology Publications, Volume 4, 1905, (further: The History of Sulu), 190 – 193; Orosa, 29; Eufonio Melo Alip, Political and Cultural History of the Philippines: Since the British Occupation, 1949, 27; Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 50 - 51, 55; Ooi, 154; Welman, 161; Hurley, 121.

Sultan Alimud-Din III

Sultan Sharapud-Din was succeeded on the throne by his son, Sultan Alimud-Din III. He ruled very briefly, considered to be only 40 days. He died in 1808, the same year as his father. He probably died of smallpox, which raged in that year on the main island of Sulu archipelago, Jolo.²⁶



Genealogy of The Royal House of Sulu.

²⁶ Orosa, 29; The History of Sulu, 193; Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 50 – 51; Philippine studies, Volume 42, Manila 1994. (further: Philippine studies), 33.

Sultan Aliyud-Din I

After Alimud-Din's death, on the throne of this island monarchy, came his younger brother, a pious Sultan Aliyud-Din I. He ruled between the 1808. and 1821. When the Spanish lost Mexico in 1821, their possessions in the Philippines came under the direct rule of Madrid. This further influenced the deterioration in relations between the Spanish Empire and the Sultanate of Sulu.²⁷

Sultan Shakirul-Lah

In the 1821. Sultan of Sulu became Shakirul-Lah. He was the brother of the Sultans Alimud-Din III and Aliyud-Din I, and the son of Sharapud-Din. He is remembered as a great benefactor of the poor. He reigned for only two years, until his death, in 1823.²⁸

Sultan Jamalul-Kiram I

Sultan Jamalul-Kiram I was the son of Sultan Alimud-Din III. He ruled the Sultanate of Sulu between 1823. and 1844. The royal House of Kiram, Sultanate of Sulu ruling family, is named after him.²⁹

The Spanish fleet under the command of Captain Alonso Morgado in 1824. won a victory over some slave traders

²⁷ Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; Orosa, 29; The History of Sulu, 193; Philippine studies, 26, 33, 37; Gregorio F. Zaide, World History, 1994. (further: Zaide, World History), 311.

²⁸ The History of Sulu, 193; Orosa, 29; Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; Clemencio Montecillo Bascar, Sultanate of Sulu: the unconquered kingdom, Western Mindanao State University, 2003. (further: Bascar), 19; Philippine studies, 26, 33, 37.

²⁹ Orosa, 29; The History of Sulu, 193, 199; Bascar, 19; Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; Philippine studies, 33, 37.

and pirates, who came from Sulu. This event improved the Spanish naval supremacy in these waters. The following period was also marked by several Spanish naval victories, which led to a reduction in the Sultanate's maritime power.³⁰

During 1840s, besides Spanish colonial interests in the territory under the rule of Sulatanate of Sulu, interests among other world powers has increased, such as: France, Britain, Germany and the United States of America.³¹

Sultan Mohammad Pulalun Kiram

Mohammad Pulalun Kiram (Pogdar) was the Sultan of Sulu in the period from 1844, until his death, in 1862. He was the son of the previous ruler of Sulu, Sultan Jamalul-Kiram I. He was regarded as capable administrator and a just ruler.³²

French fleet under Admiral Jean-Baptiste Cécille attacked the Jolo and after that, in 1844/1845, conducted a naval blockade of the island of Basilan, forcing the local leaders to recognize the sovereignty of France, on 13. January 1845. In this way, French forced the Sultanate of Sulu to formally cede Basilan for 100 000 piasters (500 000 francs), on 20. February 1845. Their intention was to create the naval base, similar to British base in Hong Kong. However, they gave up the project, as they were encountered by fierce resistance of the local population and the Spanish Empire. The Spanish also strongly opposed by diplomatic means, claiming that Basilan is part of their possessions in the Philippines. The French issued the

³⁰ The History of Sulu, 193.

³¹ Orosa, 29.

³² Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; The History of Sulu, 218; Orosa, 31; Philippine studies, 27, 33; Bascar, 19; Gémino H. Abad, Memories, visions, and scholarship, and other essays, University of the Philippines, Center for Integrative and Development Studies, 2001. (further: Abad), 106, 133; Samuel K. Tan, Filipino Muslim perceptions of their history and culture as seen through indigenous written sources, 2003. (further: Tan), 16.

proclamation on 5. August 1845, claiming that they have no longer interests in Basilan.³³

After a long period of mutual devastations and conflicts between the Spanish and the Sultanate of Sulu, in 1848. there has been a significant shift in favor of the Spanish interests. One of the main causes of this turning point, was remarkable technological advance of world powers and the emergence of new types of weapons. Especially introduction of steamships in the Spanish Navy was of great importance. Establishment of the Spanish fortress Queen Isabella II (Fuerte Isabella Segunda Reina) in Basilan was also very important, as well as some other factors.³⁴

Strong Spanish fleet led by the Governor-General of the Philippines, Narciso Claveria, invaded in 1848. fort Balangingi on Tungkil, one of the Sultanate of Sulu islands. The fort was conquered, but the local commander managed to avoid capture. After that, the Spanish conquered Maluso on Basilan island.³⁵

During the year 1850, Spanish Governor-General of the Philippines Antonio de Urbistondo, again attacked Balangingi on the island Tungkil and destroyed remaining fortifications. Later, on 28. February 1851, he attacked Jolo and completely destroyed and burned the town. On that occasion he seized 112 pieces of artillery.³⁶

The Spanish officially declared the annexation of the Sultanate of Sulu in April 1851, during the reign of Sultan

³³ Robert Aldrich, *Greater France: A History of French Overseas Expansion*, 1996, 75; Nicholas Tarling, *The Cambridge History of Southeast Asia: Volume 2, The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, 1994, 27, 43; Jose Torres, John Nery, *Into the mountain*, 2001, 165; *The History of Sulu*, 199.

³⁴ *The History of Sulu*, 199.

³⁵ *The History of Sulu*, 199, 201, 204.

³⁶ *The History of Sulu*, 206, 224.

Mohammad Pulalun Kiram. Only territory of North Borneo was exempt from this annexation.³⁷

Sultan Jamalul A'Lam

To the throne of Sultanate of Sulu came Sultan Jamalul A'Lam in 1862. He was son of the previous Sultan, Mohammad Pulalun Kiram. Sultan Jamalul A'Lam was the ruler of Sulu, until his death, in 1881. During his reign, there was a significant number of important events concerning Sultanate.³⁸

On 21. February 1876, after a series of unsuccessful attempts, the Spanish launched a large-scale attack on Jolo. Their contingent, led by Admiral Jose Malcampo, consisted of 9000 soldiers, 11 cargo ships, 11 gunboats, and 11 steamships. They conquered Jolo and established a Spanish garrison there. This garrison was led by Captain Pascual Cervera. He was assigned to the function of the military governor, which he held until December 1876. Until 1899. this position was held by a certain number of Spanish officers. The Spanish built fort in Jolo, but they did not feel safe there, because of the frequent attacks by the population of Sulu.³⁹

Sultan of Sulu signed a peace treaty with the Spanish on 22. July 1878. According to the Spanish version, it was transfer of the sovereignty over Sulu archipelago, while by version in Tausug language it was introducing a protectorate. After the signing of the peace, Sultan Jamalul A'Lam moved his court in Maybung.⁴⁰

Also, there were some major events on the southern borders of the Sultanate of Sulu, during this period. In 1865, the

³⁷ The History of Sulu, 209 - 212.

³⁸ Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; Orosa, 31; The History of Sulu, 224, 233; Philippine studies, 33, 37.

³⁹ Orosa, 32; The History of Sulu, 224, 248; Abad, 106, 133; Tan, 16.

⁴⁰ The History of Sulu, 229, 232.

American Consul to Brunei, Claude Lee Moses, concluded with the Sultanate of Sulu ten-year lease agreement on the North Borneo. Due to financial difficulties, he had to transfer his rights to the Austro-Hungarian consul in Hong Kong, baron Gustav von Overbeck. Sultan Jamalul A'Lam on 22. January 1878. signed an agreement with baron von Overbeck and British, brothers Alfred and Edward Dent. By terms of this agreement, the North Borneo given in a ten-year lease to the Company Dent and Oferbek. In return, the Sultanate received the necessary weapons and certain funds, which are paid annually. Due to the signing of the mentioned peace of 22nd July 1878, the property of Company Dent and Overbeck at the North Borneo was threatened.⁴¹

In 1880. Overbeck transferred his rights to the Dent brothers. The British established in July 1881 British North Borneo Provisional Association Ltd. In May 1882, when this association get the Charter of Queen Victoria, they formed the North Borneo Chartered Company. The company strengthened in this area, and stopped the spread of the Spanish sphere of influence to Borneo.⁴²

Sultan Badarud-Din II

Sultan Badarud-Din II was the son of Sultan Jamalul A'Lam. He came to the throne of Sulu after his father's death, in 1881. He ruled for three years. Sultan Badarud-Din II died on 22 February 1884, without male heir.⁴³

⁴¹ Philippine studies, 27 - 28; The History of Sulu, 225 – 226; Volker Schult, Wunsch und Wirklichkeit, Deutsch-philippinische Beziehungen im Kontext globaler Verflechtungen 1860–1945, Berliner Südostasien-Studien, Band 8, Berlin 2008. (further: Schult), 51 - 53.

⁴² Schult, 51 - 53.

⁴³ Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; Orosa, 33; Philippine studies, 33, 37; The History of Sulu, 237; Schult, 63; Tan, 16; Abad, 106.

Sultan Jamalul-Kiram II (first reign)

Jamalul-Kiram II was declared Sultan by his supporters in 1884, following the death of his brother, Sultan Badarud-Din II. It is believed that the earlier name of Sultan Jamalul-Kiram II was Amirul Kiram II. His reign was unsuccessfully challenged by the grandson of Sultan Shakirul-Lah, Datu (Prince) Aliud-Din. Because of that, Aliud-Din was forced to flee to the island Basilan. As a mediator between the Sultan and Aliud-Din appeared Harun Ar-Rashid (descendant of Alimud-Din by Datu Putong).⁴⁴



Historical Sultan's Palace in Maimbung,
Jolo, Sulu.

⁴⁴ Philippine studies, 30, 37; Orosa, 34 - 35, 107; Habib Jamasali Sharief Rajah Bassal Abdurahman, The Sultanate of Sulu: their dominion, 2002. (further: Abdurahman), 80; Abad, 106, 133; Schult, 63; Tan, 16.

Sultan Harun Ar-Rashid

Spanish intrigue led to the arrival of the mentioned Harun Ar-Rashid at the Sultan's throne. He was declared Sultan of Sulu in Manila in 1886. Harun Ar-Rashid never gained the support of the majority of the population Sulu. When in 1894, became clear, that he is no longer necessary to the Spanish, he was forced to abdicate. He went to Palawan, where he died in 1899.⁴⁵

The Chinese who lived at Sulu Archipelago were supplying Sultanate with arms. It was used for fighting against the Spanish. In exchange, they took slaves and material goods. At that time Chinese prevailed in Sulu trade.⁴⁶

In April 1887. The Spanish suddenly attacked Maybung, then capital of the Sultanate. On that occasion, they seized a large amount of weapons. Property of the local Chinese was destroyed, and they were deported to Jolo. In 1888, despite the fact that it was a leased territory, British proclaimed they protectorate in North Borneo.⁴⁷

Sultan Jamalul-Kiram II (second reign)

In 1894. Sultan Jamalul-Kiram II managed to re-assert his authority in this monarchy. The Spanish finally admitted him as the Sultan of Sulu. Jamalul-Kiram II died on 7. June 1936.⁴⁸

During his rule, in 1895, the unit of the Sultanate of Sulu, led by prominent military leaders, brothers Datu

⁴⁵ Bascar, 19; Orosa, 34; Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; Schult, 63; Abad, 133; Philippine studies, 30, 33, 38.

⁴⁶ Schult, 64.

⁴⁷ Schult, 60, 64, 78; The History of Sulu, 241.

⁴⁸ Orosa, 35, 107; Abdurahman, 80; Bascar, 19; Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 55; Philippine studies, 30; Tan, 16; Abad, 106, 133.

Julkarnain and Datu Kalbi, attacked the Spanish troops in the Jolo. However, this attack was rejected by the combined forces of the Spanish Army and military units of their Filipino allies.⁴⁹

The Spanish have lost the Spanish - American War. Under the terms of the Paris Peace, 1898, they gave certain territories to the United States of America. Among these territories were the Philippines. Concerning these circumstances, U.S. Brigadier General John Coalter Bates made the agreement with the Sultan of Sulu Jamalul-Kiram II, on 26th August 1899. It is interesting that, under the terms of the agreement, although it acknowledges the supremacy of Americans, the Sultanate of Sulu remained full sovereignty over the North Borneo.⁵⁰

Conclusion

In the tumultuous period, as was the 19th century, the Sultanate of Sulu came in contact with various colonial powers of the time, such as: Spain, United Kingdom, France and the United States. These contacts were usually concerning conflicts between them, although there were some inter-state cooperation.

Although the Sultanate of Sulu entered in the 19th century as an important regional entity, its influence in the region has decreased during this century. As in previous centuries, the Sultanate of Sulu led continual struggle with the world's colonial powers, but this time appeared some new factors. In the first place it was a more modern weapons, which world powers began to use. Appearance of steamships, for example, has had a major impact on the balance of power in

⁴⁹ Gregorio F. Zaide, *The pageant of Philippine history: political, economic, and socio-cultural*, Volume 1, 1979, 556; Salah Jubair, *Bangsamoro*, 1999, 53.

⁵⁰ *The History of Sulu*, 245; *Philippine studies*, 28; *Orosa*, 35, 37; *Bascar*, 87 – 88; Zaide, *World History*, 311.

the maritime domination. The Sultanate of Sulu haven't had industrial and economic base for the production or supply of modern weapons. Despite persistent and courageous struggle for freedom of the Sultans, the leaders, and the people of Sulu, the impact of this state in the region was gradually decreasing in the age of the industrial and technological revolution.

"THE PEARL KNIGHTS"

**-ABOUT THE ROYAL AND HASHEMITE ORDER OF THE
PEARL-**

Although The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl was formally established in June 2011, it is an institution whose roots are much deeper. When the current Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo, His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram decided to establish a Order, using His sovereign right as "Fons honorum", it was uniting of the royal, nobiliary and chivalrous traditions of Sultanate, in a manner appropriate international standards.⁵¹

This issue will be further discussed. However, firstly we will analyze the name of this Order.

* * *

Almost from the beginning of human civilization, the pearl has represented something very precious, but at the same time something sophisticated and rare. Symbolism of the pearl is very significant. It is mentioned in many of ancient writings. Sacred books of great world religions, including Christianity, Islam and Hinduism, mention pearl, usually as a symbol of great value.⁵²

For the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, pearl is even more important than for most other countries. On the islands of the Sulu archipelago pearls are collected for centuries in the traditional way. It is believed, that pearls from Sulu are most valuable in the world. For centuries, only the Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo had the right to possess the largest and most valuable pearls found in the archipelago. Although penalties for violators of this law were very harsh, some exceptional pieces found their way to Europe and other destinations by secret channels. Pearls are also of great

⁵¹ Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl; Andreou.

⁵² Julie McCarty, The Pearl of Great Price, 2007, 46; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pearl.

importance for this country because, for a long time, they are one of the pillars of its economy.⁵³

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The term "Hashemite" in the title of Order has its roots in the very foundations Kiram dynasty, as well as the history of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo. This term refers to the ancient Arab clan Hashemites, descendants of Hashim. It is a branch of a larger tribe, the Quraish. From the Hashemite clan originated Prophet Muhammad himself, his daughter Fatima and her husband Ali, the most important personalities of Islam. The roots of this clan are in the region Hejaz in today's Saudi Arabia, near the Red Sea.⁵⁴

In the narrow sense, Hashemites are descendants of the Prophet Muhammad through his daughter Fatima and her husband Ali. Fatima and Ali had more children, but it is known that four of them came to maturity. These were sons Hasan ibn Ali and Husayn ibn Ali, and daughters Zaynab and Umm Kulthum. Descendants of Fatima and Ali are bearing honorary titles Sayyid (master) and the Sharif (noble).⁵⁵

Some important Dynasties of the Islamic world developed from the old clan Hashemites. Among them were the former Dynasties of: Hejaz Kingdom, Syria, North Yemen and Iraq. Sharifs of Mecca had Same origins. Current Royal Houses of Jordan and Morocco are also of Hashemitic origin.⁵⁶

⁵³ Warren, 72 - 74; Kunz, Stevenson, 214, 220, 468; Southgate, Lucas, 25; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pearl.

⁵⁴ Mousawi, 219 - 238; Reich, 233; Seddon, 241; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hashemite.

⁵⁵ Mousawi, 219 - 238; Reich, 233; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fatimah.

⁵⁶ Mousawi, 219 - 238; Reich, 233; Seddon, 241; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hashemite.

Royal House of Kiram of Sulu and North Borneo is one of the Dynasties that have Hashemite ancestry. In the first half of the 15th century Said Abubakar Abirin, a prominent explorer and Islamic religious teacher, came to Sulu. He was born in Johor on the Malay Peninsula, and he was of Arabic, respectively of Hashemitic origin. He married Princess Paramisuli and about 1450, after the death of his father in law Raj Baguinde, he founded the Sultanate of Sulu. Said Abubakar Abirin ruler's name was Sharif ul - Hashim. The present Royal House of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, Kiram, descends from him.⁵⁷

As mentioned, Hashemites in the narrow sense of the word, or descendants of the Prophet Muhammad through his daughter Fatima, have the right to bear the title Sayyid. In accordance with the traditions of his country, and his Hashemitic origin, His Majesty Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo, bears the title of the Grand Sayyid of the The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl. It is the appropriate title for this function of His Majesty, because it is equivalent to the traditional title of the Grand Master of the Order in English language.⁵⁸

* * *

Title of Sultan is certainly one of the most important and most frequent royal titles in countries with deeply rooted Islamic traditions. This title comes from the Arabic language and is derived from the term "sultah", meaning "authority" or "power".

⁵⁷ Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain, 50 - 55;
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_sultans_of_Sulu,
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad_Shah_of_Bornei;
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad_Hassan.
⁵⁸ Mousawi, 223; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fatimah; Sultanate of Sulu – official
internet presentation;
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl; Andreou.

In the region of Sulu archipelago it has been present since the mid-15th century. His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram is the 35th Sultan of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo.⁵⁹



Grand Cordon of The Royal and Hashemite Order
of the Pearl.

⁵⁹ Campo, 643; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultan.

The term "Fons honorum" (Fount of honour) means a person who, by his/her position, has the sovereign right of giving legitimate titles of nobility, or membership in the knightly orders, to other people. These are, therefore, persons who are either rulers of states, heads of dynasties, or leaders of traditional (old) religious organizations. By the establishment of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl, His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram used this sovereign right as the Sultan of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, as well as the Head of the Royal House of Kiram.⁶⁰

* * *

Besides the symbolism regarding the name, insignia of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl also contain a certain symbolic significance. On the insignia of this Order (collar, badges, stars, rosettes and miniatures) are elements of the coat of arms of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo: double saber, pearl, crescent, star and crown.⁶¹

Besides the crescent and star, which are clearly associated with Islamic tradition of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, one of the most significant parts of insignia of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl is represented by double saber, probably Zulfiqar. This symbol is also represented at Coat of Arms of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo. It is a legendary bifurcated (double) saber or sword of Ali, given to him by his father-in-law, Prophet Muhammad.

⁶⁰ Antti Matikkala, The Orders of Knighthood and the Formation of the British Honours System 1660 – 1760, 2008, 100; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fons_honorum; Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl.

⁶¹ Andreou; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl.

Zulfiqar is, among other things, a symbol of sharp distinction between right and wrong.⁶²

The symbolism of the pearls for Sulu is already mentioned. The crown on the insignia of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl represents ruler's dignity of the Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo. On the breast star of the Order appears the mythical animals (semi tiger - semi fish), which are also supporters of the shield on the Greater Coat of Arms of the Sultanate.⁶³

* * *

The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl is divided into several grades. Highest grade, Royal Companion, is reserved exclusively for members of the current and former ruling houses. Beside this, there are five more grades in the Order: Grand Cordon, Distinguished Companion, Companion, Officer and Member. This ranking to some extent resembles the ranking of traditional nobility and privileged classes of society in the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo (datu, tuan...), but also the European Royal Orders of Chivalry. Membership in the Order can only be acquired in accordance with the wish and the approval of its Grand Sayyid (Grand Master). With this dynastic Order its Grand Sayyid rewards persons of all nationalities and religions, which were particularly meritorious concerning service, deeds and faithfulness to the Royal House and the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, as well as those, who gained an outstanding international reputation in their field of activity.⁶⁴

⁶² Madonna Gauding, *The Signs and Symbols Bible*, New York 2009, 105; Roy Jackson, *Fifty Key Figures in Islam*, 2006, 17; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zulfiqar.

⁶³ Andreou; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl.

⁶⁴ Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl.

In outstanding article “Heraldic privileges of the Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl”, His Excellency Aleksander Kimon Andreou gave a very detailed insight into the heraldic aspects of the Order, so at this point we will not specifically deal with them.⁶⁵

* * *

Among the members of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl there are some leading figures from the royal families, as well as scientists, artists, and other prominent individuals. We are going to mention only a few here: HM King (Omukama) Solomon Iguru I of Bunyoro-Kitara; HM King Kigeli V of Rwanda; HRH Duarte Pio Duke of Braganza, "de jure" King of Portugal; HRH Davit Bagrationi Mukhran, Crown Prince of Georgia; HHH Prince Ermias Sahle Selassie of Ethiopia; HIRH Archduke Joseph Karl von Habsburg; HRH Princess Margaret von Hohenberg; HRH Prince Aleksandar Pavlov Karageorgevich of Serbia and Yugoslavia; HRH Prince Vladimir Karageorgevich of Serbia and Yugoslavia; HRH Princess Jelisaveta Karageorgevich of Serbia and Yugoslavia; HRH Princess Brigitta Karageorgevich of Serbia and Yugoslavia; HRH Princess Luciana Pallavicini Hassan of Afghanistan; HRH Princess Mahera Hassan of Afghanistan; HRH Prince Osman Rifat Ibrahim of Egypt and Turkey, HH Prince Mohsin Ali Khan of Hyderabad; HRH Princess Dr Chao Duangduen of Chiang Mai and many other prominent members of the Order.⁶⁶

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⁶⁵ Andreou.

⁶⁶ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl.

Although, in accordance with tradition and spirit of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl is not officially called the order of chivalry, it is certainly knightly order of the Royal House, from a European point of view. Concerning this, the writer of these lines should not be criticized for authorial freedom, to call members of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl – “The Pearl Knights”.

**ABOUT SUCCESSION OF
THE TITLE
OF SULTAN OF SULU**

We are witnessing numerous attempts to relativize the process of succession of title of Sultan in the Sultanate of Sulu. These attempts are constantly being launched by a number of self-styled Sultans, pretenders to the throne of this island monarchy.⁶⁷

Firstly, we will consider practice of succession of this title in the Sultanate of Sulu, during the 20th century. Older examples from the rich history of the Sultanate will not be considered, primarily because of the fact, that they were very similar to examples from the 20th century.⁶⁸

In the beginning of the 20th century, Sultanate of Sulu was under the leadership of Sultan Jamalul Kiram II, who ruled between 1894. and 1936. He had only daughters, who came to adulthood.⁶⁹

After the death of Sultan Jamalul Kiram II, his brother Muvallil Wasit II was declared Sultan. Until then, he was the Crown Prince. He, however, died in the same year (1936), before he was formally crowned.⁷⁰

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<http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu;>
<http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history;>
<http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news;> <http://www.prlog.org/12087667-official-gazette-of-the-republic-of-the-philippines-publishes-official-list-of-sultans-of-sulu.html> (further: Prlog);
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muedzul_Lail_Tan_Kiram (further: Wikipedia, Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram); http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_sultans_of_Sulu (further: Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu).

⁶⁸ http://pcdsp.gov.ph/downloads/PDF-for-download_Succession-Line_A4.pdf (further: Succession-Line); Prlog; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu;>
[http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history.](http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history;)

⁶⁹ Succession-Line; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_House_of_Sulu (further: Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu); Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu;>
[http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history.](http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history;)

⁷⁰ Succession-Line; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu (further: Wikipedia, Sultanate of Sulu); Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu;>
[http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history.](http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history;)

In the period 1937 - 1950, there were several pretenders to the throne of the Sultanate of Sulu. One of them was Amirul Umara I, supported by the Japanese. He was the son in law of Sultan Jamalul Kiram II (husband of his adopted daughter Piandao). The second was Jainal Abirin. He was supported by the American forces.⁷¹

Sultan Moh. Esmail Kiram I was the eldest son of Sultan Muvallil Wasit II. He was Crown Prince, before coming to the throne. He was leader of the Sultanate of Sulu in the period of 24 years, between 1950. and 1974. He was recognized by the Philippine Government.⁷²

In 1974, after the death of Sultan Moh. Esmail I Kiram, the throne was succeeded by his eldest son, Sultan Moh. Mahakuttah Kiram. During the reign of his father, Mahakuttah Kiram was the Crown Prince.⁷³

At the time of the coronation of Sultan Moh. Mahakuttah Kiram, his eldest son, Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram, was proclaimed Crown Prince Sultanate of Sulu. The former Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos, by special decree, confirmed the coronation of the new Sultan and the appointment of the new heir to the throne. There are documents concerning this event, that have been published on the official website of the Sultanate of Sulu,

⁷¹ Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; [http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu](http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu;); <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history>.

⁷² Succession-Line; Wikipedia, Sultanate of Sulu; Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu; Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu>; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history>.

⁷³ Succession-Line; Prlog; Wikipedia, Sultanate of Sulu; Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu>; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history>; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news>.

and in recent times they have been mentioned in the official Gazette of the Republic of Philippines.⁷⁴

Sultan Moh. Mahakuttah Kiram died in 1986. At that moment, Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram should to come to the throne, both regarding his inheritance right of the first born Sultan's son, as well as his appointment as the Crown Prince in 1974. However, due to the unstable political situation in the country, and because of his youth, the official coronation didn't happened at that time. Then, as well as in the following years and decades, appeared some people with unfounded claims of Sulu sultan's throne.⁷⁵

Some of these self-proclaimed pretenders were of the royal blood, and members of Kiram dynasty, like Datu (Prince) Fuad Kiram, Jamalul Kiram III, or Esmail Kiram II. Others were born in families that were not of royal or noble ancestry, but anyway they stated their claim to throne.⁷⁶

This situation has formally ended when, in 16 September 2012, took place the traditional coronation of the

⁷⁴ <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news/vstc7=legal-documents; Succession-Line; Prlog; Wikipedia, Sultanate of Sulu; Wikipedia, Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram; Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu; http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history; http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news.>

⁷⁵ Succession-Line; Prlog; Wikipedia, Sultanate of Sulu; Wikipedia, Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram; Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu; Wikipedia, Royal House of Sulu; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu; http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history; http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news.>

⁷⁶ <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news/vstc7=revoke-appointment-of-fuad-a-kiram; Succession-Line; Prlog; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!sultan-of-sulu; http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!history.>

legal heir to the throne of the Sultanate of Sulu, Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram.⁷⁷

Even after the historic act of coronation of Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram, which was supported by the Royal Council (Ruma Bichara), imams of the Islamic community of Sulu, local leaders and people Sulu, some self-proclaimed pretenders have not given up their claims to the Sultan title.⁷⁸

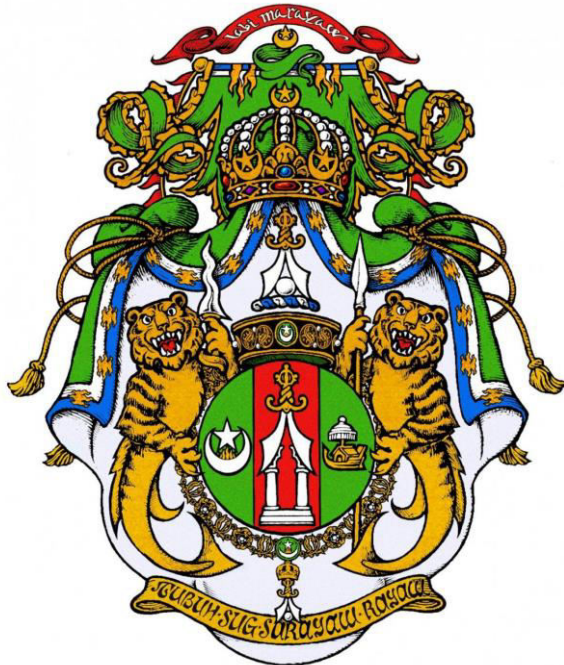
Using his legitimate right, Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram established, in accordance with the old traditions of the Sultanate, the Royal and Hashemite Order of Pearl. This Order has been recognized in international royal, aristocratic and expert circles. Among its numerous prominent members we will mention only a few: King of Bunyoro-Kitara Solomon Iguru I, King of Rwanda Kigeli V, Head of the Royal House of Portugal Duarte Pio of Braganza, Head of the Royal House of Georgia David Bagration, Ethiopian Imperial Prince Ermias Sahle Selassie, members of some royal and princely houses, like Karageorgevich and Habsburg, princes of Afghanistan, Egypt, Hyderabad, as well as others. Among members of this Order is also former Polish president and Nobel Prize winner, Lech Walesa.⁷⁹

⁷⁷ <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!/news/vstc7=35th-sultan-of-sulu-is-crowned>; Prlog; Wikipedia, Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu; <http://www.czipm.org/new-sultan-of-sulu.html>.

⁷⁸ Succession-Line; Prlog; Wikipedia, Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram; Wikipedia, List of Sultans of Sulu.

⁷⁹ <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!/order-of-the-pearl>; ; <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!/news/vstc7=sovereignty>; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl; <http://www.ordenskreuz.com/sulu.htm>; <http://salondeltrono.blogspot.co.uk/2011/11/la-orden-de-la-perla-del-real-sultanato.html>; <http://augustansociety.org/cpage.php?pt=50> (у даљем тексту: Augustan Society); <http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/law-criminology/staffdirectory/noc1/>; <http://www.idtg.org/archive/1650-heraldic-privileges-of-the-royal-and-hashemite-order-of-the-pearl/>; Andreou; Bačko, Pearl Knights.

Some relevant international organizations, such as the International Commission for Orders of Chivalry, Augustan Society and others, clearly recognized Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram as the sole legitimate Sultan of Sulu and the only person in the Sultanate, who now has the right to establish chivalric orders (orders of datuship).⁸⁰



Coat of arms of The Royal Sultanate of Sulu. Artist:
HE Datu Sadia Michael Y. Medvedev.

⁸⁰ Wikipedia, Sultanate of Sulu;
<http://www.100enonpiu100.info/programma2012.htm> (further: Programma 2012); Augustan Society; [http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news/vstc7="il-mondo-del-cavaliere"-no.44](http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news/vstc7=);
<http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news/vstc7=silatnas-2011-invitation>;
<http://www.icocregister.org/index.htm>.

Unlike the Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl, some fictitious "titles" and "orders" are promoted by self-proclaimed pretenders. These are named mainly on the pseudo – European bases, not accordingly the traditions of Sulu. These self-proclaimed pretenders are not legitimate holders of the title of Sultan or chief of the royal House of Kiram, so they have no right for such actions. Their so-called "titles" and "orders" are not recognized by any of relevant international organisations.⁸¹

Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram is recognized and respected by members of many of the world's dynasties. He is also the holder of a significant number of foreign decorations. Among them, there are Orders awarded by the royal houses of: Bunyoro-Kitara (Uganda), Georgia, Rwanda, Vietnam and Ethiopia.⁸²

Considering all that is mentioned, it is clear that the only true and legitimate Sultan of Sulu is Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram. As the eldest son of the last undeniable Sultan of Sulu, Moh. Mahakuttah Kiram, he is the only legitimate claimant to the throne of his late father.

Furthermore, in his early age, at the time of his father's coronation, he was appointed as Crown Prince. All legitimate sultans of Sulu in the 20th century were firstly bearers of this title. His appointment was confirmed by the Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos.

Also, the sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram is grandson of Sultan Moh. Esmail I Kiram, and great-grandson of Sultan Muvallil Wasit II. He was crowned as Sultan of Sulu on 16 September 2012, with the support and approval of the Royal Council, the imams of the Islamic community of Sulu and

⁸¹ Augustan Society.

⁸² <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news/vstc7=ballo-dei-cento-e-non-più-cento;> <http://www.royalsultanateofsulu.org/#!news/vstc7=treaty-of-friendly-relations;> Wikipedia, Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram; Programma 2012.

people of Sulu. These are the facts, intentionally relativized by self-proclaimed pretenders to the throne of the Sultanate and by their followers, because of their own interests.

**ABOUT TITLES OF
TRADITIONAL
RULERS, ROYALTY,
NOBILITY, CHIVALRY AND
CHIEFS OF PHILIPPINE ISLANDS**

System of traditional titles of Philippine Islands is very complicated. It was changing during the time, and it was different in every culture on this archipelago. Today, best preserved and practically only in use are traditional titles in Sultanate of Sulu.

Titles of Philippine Islands came from various languages and cultures. Some of them are indigenous in Southeast Asia, while some came from Middle East (Islamic), European (Hispanic), Indian, and other cultures and sources.

Presented list of titles of traditional rulers, royalty, nobility, chivalry and chiefs is uncompleted. However, we believe, that it will be some contribution concerning this question. Author and editor are hoping, that this list will be useful in some further research.

Adinda – See: Maharaja Adinda.

Agalon – This title was used in Visayas. Term Agalon or Amo has roughly same meaning as European title “lord”. Title Agalon (Amo) was referring to Datu in that area. See also: Datu.⁸³

Amo – See: Agalon.

Ampun – Part of full regnal title of HM Ampun Sultan Muedzul-Lail Tan Kiram of Sulu. Term “Ampun” roughly has

⁸³ Sebastian Sta. Cruz Serag, *The Remnants of the Great Ilonggo Nation*, Quezon City 1997, 22; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

meaning “mercy”, or “forgiveness”, so in this title it likely should be translated as “merciful”. See also: Sultan.⁸⁴

Apo – This was the title same, or very similar to Datu, or Lakan in Tagalog region (Luzon, one of the Philippine Islands). Basic meaning of title Apo is roughly same, as term “Chief”.⁸⁵

Atubang sa Datu – In Visayas, the Chief minister or Privy counselor of the Datu was known as the Atubang sa Datu (literally "facing the datu"). Atubang sa Datu belonged to the Tumao class. See also: Datu; Tumao.⁸⁶

Bandahala - This was the title of the town inspector of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.⁸⁷

Batara – See: Raja.

Bilanggo - Bearer of this title in Visayas was responsible for maintaining law and order. Own house of

⁸⁴ Waruno Mahdi, Malay Words and Malay Things: Lexical Souvenirs from an Exotic Archipelago in German Publications before 1700, Frankfurter Forschungen za Südostasien 3, Wiesbaden 2007, 323; Information from official internet presentation of Sultanate of Sulu www.royalsultanateofsulu.org (further: Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation).

⁸⁵ Artemio R. Guillermo, Epic Tales of the Philippines, Tribal Lore of the Filipinos, 2003, 42; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

⁸⁶ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magino>.

⁸⁷ Sixto Y. Orosa, The Sulu Archipelago and its people, New York 1931. (further: Orosa), 59.

Bilanggo served as “bilanggowan” (this is the term for community jail in Visayas).⁸⁸

Binokot – In Visayas, Princesses, female members of Principalía, were known as Binokot (literally “the veiled ones”, or “the wrapped ones”), due to the fact that they were usually transported by slaves in covered palanquins. See also: Principalía.⁸⁹

Cabeza de Barangay - During colonial period, nobility of Philippine Islands (Principalía) was mainly composed of Gobernadorcillos, and Cabezas de Barangay - who were chiefs of the barangays (smallest administrative division at Philippine Islands). Cabeza de Barangay means head of the barangay in Spanish. This office was inherited from the Datus, who became Cabezas de Barangay, when many independent barangays on Philippine Islands became vassals of the Spanish Crown. King Phillip II of Spain decided, that the native nobility of Philippine Islands should retain honors and privileges they had before. The office of the Cabeza de Barangay was hereditary. See: Principalía; Gobernadorcillo.⁹⁰

Chancellor – See: Datu Sadja.

Captain – See: Gobernadorcillo.

⁸⁸ Papers in Austronesian linguistics, Issues 2-3, Australian National University, 1992, 90; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>.

⁸⁹ Jane Monnig Atkinson, Shelly Errington, Power and Difference, Gender in Island Southeast Asia, Stanford 1990, 355; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

⁹⁰ Artemio R. Guillermo, Historical Dictionary of the Philippines, third edition, 2012. (further: Guillermo, Historical Dictionary), 91, 326; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabeza_de_Barangay.

Chief --- See: Raja; Datu; Timway.

Chief minister – See: Atubang sa Datu.

Chief of Protocol and Public Relations – See: Datu Sadja.

Companion - See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Companion of the Pearl Collar - See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Crown Prince – See: Raja Muda.

Datu – Title of royalty, highest nobles and notables at Philippine Islands. This title is in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu also known as Su-sultanun. Some of early Rulers of Sulu were bearing title Tuan. Descendant of Tuan Mashā'ikha (died in 1310 AD) was Tuan May. He had a son, named Datu Tka. The descendants of Tuan May did not assume the title Tuan, instead, they started to use title Datu. It is the first known time, that title Datu was used as a political institution in Sulu.⁹¹

Before the arrival of Islam, Sulu Archipelago was inhabited by several cultures, and was divided in three independent kingdoms, which were ruled by the Buranun, Tagimaha, and Baklaya peoples. The socio-political systems of

⁹¹ Orosa, 24; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu; HE Datu Sadja Michael Y. Medvedev, The Honours System of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu (further: Medvedev, Honours); <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datu>.

these kingdoms were characterized by several distinct institutions: rajahship, datuship, tuanship and timwayship. The arrival of mentioned Ruler, Tuan Mashā'ikha, established a core Islamic community in the island.⁹²



Datu with his wife (Boxer Codex, 16th century).

⁹² http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

Title Datu is in Royal Sultanate of Sulu acquired purely by lineage to the sultanate (or adoption). All male members of the Royal House of Sulu should hold this hereditary title. They should hold the style: His Royal Highness or His Highness, according to the traditional customs of Royal House of Sulu. Their spouses should automatically hold the title of Dayang Dayang (Princess of the first degree) and should hold the style: Her Royal Highness or Her Highness.⁹³

In Visayas, Datus belonged to the Tumao class. In that region and Mindanao, Datu was, among other meanings, title referring: Chiefs, sovereign Princes, and Monarchs. This was also title of members of Maginoo class in Tagalog society (at the lowlands of Luzon), who ruled over a community. They either ruled over a single community (a pook) or part of a larger settlement (a bayan, "town"). They constituted a council (lipon, lupon, or pulong) and answered to a Paramount Chief, Lakan (or Rajah). During the Spanish conquest of Philippine Islands, these community Datu were given the equivalent Spanish title of Don.⁹⁴

Some similar titles of the same root are used in other parts of Southeast Asia, As well as Oceania. For instance, word Datu is akin to the Malay word Dato or Datuk, which are royal titles of the Malay people, and to the Fijian title of Ratu. See also: Datu Sadja; Lakan; Tuan; Raja; Timway.⁹⁵

Datu Amir Bahar – See: Datu Sadja.

Datu Maharaja Adenduk – See: Datu Sadja.

⁹³ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

⁹⁴ Guillermo, Historical Dictionary, 4, 5, 125, 273, 300;
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datu>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>.

⁹⁵ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datu>.

Datu Maharaja Layla – See: Datu Sadja.

Datu Sadja – This is the title of the major titled nobility in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. Style of Datu Sadja is "Excellency". The title of Datu Sadja may be granted for particular merits or achieved through appointment to any of the eight great offices of the Realm: Wazir (Prime Minister), Datu Maharaja Adenduk, Datu Maharaja Layla, Datu Amir Bahar, Chancellor, Secretary General, Gateway Chronicler King of Arms, and the Chief of Protocol and Public Relations. In the past, the list of these offices was varying, but it was similar. Also, title (Gullal) of Datu Sadja is granted, if a commoner has achieved outstanding deeds or services to Sultan and Sultanate, through display of bravery, heroism, etc.⁹⁶

Title of Datu Sadja is not hereditary, unless the Sultan, in any particular situation, decides otherwise. Anyway, a kind of preference is being given to the relatives of the past Datu Sadjas. Only those, who were created personally, keep the title for life, irrespectively of any reappointments and resignations. It is currently established, that the children of Datus enjoy the titles of Tuan (for men) and Sitty (for women). Also, this Tuanship descends via primogeniture. See also: Datu; Dayang; Gullal; Excellency.⁹⁷

Dayang – This is the female equivalent of the title Datu Sadja in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. Spouses of Datu Sadjas in this Sulatanate are bearing title Dayang, and style: Her Excellency. In the lowlands of Luzon its male equivalent is Gat. This title was also formerly used in other parts of Southeast

⁹⁶ Orosa, 58; Medvedev, Honours.

⁹⁷ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

Asia, for instance in Sarawak. See also: Dayang Dayang; Datu Sadja; Gat; Maginoo.⁹⁸

Dayang Dayang – Title of the Princess (Princess of the first degree) within the Sultanate of Sulu is Dayang Dayang. It is the female equivalent of the title Datu. Spouses of Datus in this Sultanate should automatically hold the title of Dayang Dayang, and hold the style: Her Royal Highness or Her Highness. See also: Dayang; Datu.⁹⁹

Distinguished Companion - See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Don – See: Datu; Principalía.

Doña – See: Principalía.

Dynastic Order – See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Excellency – This is well known style in English language. For instance, it is the style used in today the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It refers to Datu Sadja and Dayang. See also: Datu Sadja; Dayang.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁸ Guillermo, Historical Dictionary, 236;
<http://www.royalark.net/Malaysia/sarawak.htm> (further: Sarawak); Medvedev,
Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu;
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>.

⁹⁹ Medvedev, Honours; Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁰⁰ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

Gat - Proper names of the members of Maginoo class of the lowlands of Luzon were preceded by title Gat for men and Dayang for women. These titles are similar to “lord” and “lady”. See also: Maginoo; Dayang.¹⁰¹

Gateway Chronicler King of Arms – See: Datu Sadja.

Ginoo – See: Maginoo.

Ginu – This is nobility social class among Kapampangan people at Philippine Islands. It is similar to Maginoo class (lowlands of Luzon), or Tumao class (Visayan people). See also: Maginoo; Tumao.¹⁰²

Gobernadorcillo – During colonial period, Filipino nobility (Principalía) was mainly composed of Gobernadorcillos, and Cabezas de barangay. Gobernadorcillos had functions similar to a town mayor, municipal judge or governor. In towns at the coast, Gobernadorcillo also functioned as a port Captain. See: Principalia; Cabeza de Barangay.¹⁰³

Grand Cordon - See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Grand Sayyid – HM Ampun Sultan Muedzul – Lail Tan Kiram of Sulu is the Grand Sayyid (Grand Master) of The Royal

¹⁰¹ Guillermo, Historical Dictionary, 406; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>.

¹⁰² <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>.

¹⁰³ Guillermo, Historical Dictionary, 107, 357, 371; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gobernadorcillo>.

and Hashemite Order of the Pearl. See also: Sayyid; Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl; Sultan.¹⁰⁴

Gullal – This is the term with meaning: “title” within the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. Gullal refers to various titles in this Sultanate, for instance Datu Sadja. Gullal is made, if a commoner has achieved outstanding deeds or services, through display of bravery, heroism, etc. See also: Datu Sadja.¹⁰⁵

Head of the Royal House - HM Ampun Sultan Muedzul – Lail Tan Kiram of Sulu is the Head of the Royal House of the Sultanate of Sulu (House of Kiram), since 16. February 1986, after the death of His Majesty's late father, HM Moh. Mahakuttah A. Kiram, 34th Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo. See also: Sultan.¹⁰⁶

Herald – See: Paratawag; Datu Sadja.

Hereditary Sovereign - Hereditary Sovereign of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl is HM Ampun Sultan Muedzul – Lail Tan Kiram of Sulu. See also: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl; Sultan.¹⁰⁷

Highness – This is well known style in English language. In the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, Princes (Royal Datu, Datu) and Princesses (Dayang Dayang) are entitled to the

¹⁰⁴ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl.

¹⁰⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁰⁶ Aleksandar Bačko, About succession of the title of Sultan of Sulu, http://www.czipm.org/nasledjivanje_sulu-eng.html (further: Bačko, About...); http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muedzul_Lail_Tan_Kiram.

¹⁰⁷ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl.

styles either of Highness or of Royal Highness. See also: Royal Highness; Datu; Dayang Dayang.¹⁰⁸

Honorable – See: Honourable.

Honourable – This is style used for bearers of titles Tuan (for males) and Sitti (for females), within the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It is worldwide well known style, in English language. See also: Tuan; Sitti; Patik.¹⁰⁹

Juhan Pahalawan - This was the title of the fortification inspector of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹¹⁰

Kadatoan – In Visaya, the immediate royal family of the Datu were distinguished from the rest of the Tumao class. It was known as the Kadatoan (Kadatuan), which was both a political office and a social class. The purity of the lineage of the Kadatoan was very important in claiming the right to rule, so members of this class usually only married members of other Datu families. See also: Tumao; Datu.¹¹¹

Kadatuan – See: Kadatoan.

Kalibutan – Bearers of the title Datu in Visayas, whose four grandparents are all of pure royal descent, were known as Kalibutan (it means "all around"). See also: Datu.¹¹²

¹⁰⁸ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁰⁹ Medvedev, Honours.

¹¹⁰ Orosa, 59.

¹¹¹ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

¹¹² <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>.

Kaponoan – See: Pangulo.

Kesultanan – See: Wakil Kesultanan.

Lakan – This was pre – Hispanic title of Paramount Chief of members of Maginoo class among Tagalogs, at the lowlands of Luzon. In that area, community Datus were reporting to Lakans. Today, the term is still occasionally used, with meaning "nobleman", but it has mostly been adapted to other uses. See also: Raja; Datu; Maginoo.¹¹³

Laksaman - Sub region representative inside Royal Sulu Sultanate is called Laksaman. This office is corresponding with title Tuan (for males), or Sitti (for females). In the beginning of the 20th century, Laksamana was office of messenger of Panglima in Sulu Sultanate. See also: Tuan; Sitti; Panglima.¹¹⁴

Laksamana – See: Laksaman.

Lord – See: Maginoo; Panginoon.

Lubus nga Datu – See: Potli.

Maginoo - Tagalog nobility in the lowlands of Luzon were known as Maginoo. Only persons who can claim royal

¹¹³ Guillermo, Historical Dictionary, 236; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lakan>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

¹¹⁴ Orosa, 59; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

descent, were included in this class. They were nobles by lineage and family. Regardless of gender, members of the Maginoo class were referred to as Ginoo. For this class was used Spanish term Señor (lord). See also: Gat; Dayang; Panginoon.¹¹⁵

Maharlika – Honourable class of untitled professional warriors. This term is used in the Sultanate of Sulu, and historically, elsewhere at Philippine Islands (Tagalog society in the lowlands of Luzon etc.). Among Tagalogs, members of Maharlika class were feudal warriors, free vassals of their Datu, who were exempt from taxes and tribute. Instead, they were required to provide military service. This was lower nobility, similar to Timawa class in Visayas.¹¹⁶

Word Maharlika is derived from Sanskrit term “maharddhika” Its meaning is “a man of wealth, knowledge, and ability”. Similar terms are also presented in other parts of Southeast Asia. For instance, in precolonial Java, Maharddhika referred to members of religious orders, usually royal advisors, who were not obligated to pay taxes or tribute. In the 7th century Srivijaya Empire (parts of Sumatra, Java and Malay Peninsula), this term referred to powerful individuals who controlled their own subjects, from Alipin class (servants and slaves). Similar words, like: “mardika”, “merdeka”, “merdeheka”, or “maradika” also mean “freedom” (as opposed to servitude) in various Indo-Malayan languages, including languages of the Muslim areas of Southern Philippines. See also: Untitled Nobility; Timawa¹¹⁷

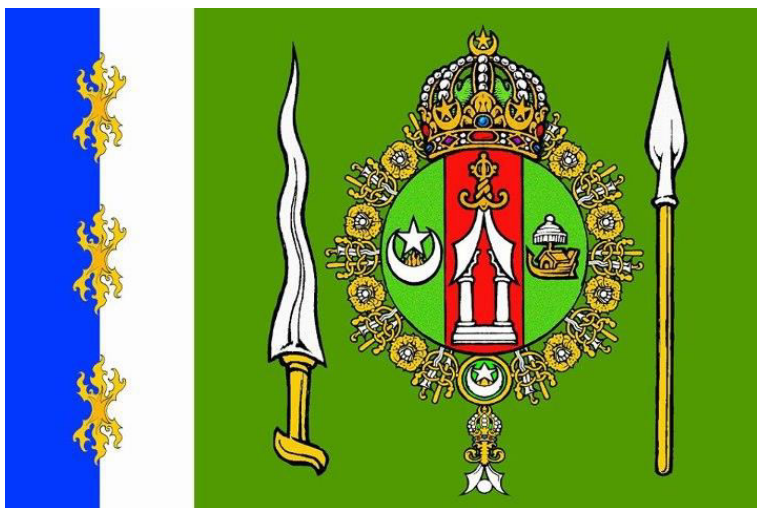
¹¹⁵ Guillermo, Historical Dictionary, 236; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>;
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

¹¹⁶ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharlika>; Medvedev, Honours;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu;
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

¹¹⁷ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharlika>.

Maharaja - Rank of the captain in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the first decades of the 20th century.¹¹⁸

Maharaja Adinda – This is title of the second person in the order of succession to the throne (first in order of succession, Crown Prince, is Raja Muda). Term Maharaja Adinda is used in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. See also: Raja Muda.¹¹⁹



Official flag of HM Ampun Sultan Muedzul-Lail Tan Kiram, the Sovereign and Grand Sayyid (Grand Master) of the Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl. Artist: HE Datu Sadja Michael Y. Medvedev.

¹¹⁸ Orosa, 59.

¹¹⁹ Orosa, 58; Medvedev, Honours; Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation.

Maharaja Bansawan - This was the office of major in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹²⁰

Maharaja Laila - This was the title of the district inspector of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹²¹

Maharaja Pahalawan - Rank of the colonel in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹²²

Majesty – This is the style of Sultan of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It is well known style in English language, used in many monarchies worldwide. See also: Sultan; Paduka Mahasari Maulana al Sultan.¹²³

Makaporos nga Datu – See: Pangulo.

Mantiri – This was office in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It was conferred to blood relatives of Sultan.¹²⁴

Maygintawo - In the lowlands of Luzon, member of Maginoo class of lower status, who gain prominence by newly acquired wealth, were known as Maygintawo (literally "person with a lot of gold"). See also: Maginoo.¹²⁵

¹²⁰ Orosa, 59.

¹²¹ Orosa, 59.

¹²² Orosa, 59.

¹²³ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹²⁴ Orosa, 60.

¹²⁵ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>.

Member - See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Mirbahal – This was the title of the Secretary of commerce of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the early years of the 20th century.¹²⁶

Muluk Bandarasa – This was the title of the Secretary of State of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹²⁷

Muluk Cajal – Title of the Secretary of war of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹²⁸

Munabbi – Former office in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It was conferred to blood relatives of Sultan.¹²⁹

Muratib – Master of ceremonies of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century. This office was conferred to blood relatives of Sultan.¹³⁰

Nakib - This was the office of the first lieutenant in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹³¹

Nobility – See: Datu Sadjá; Tuan; Sitti; Untitled Nobility.

¹²⁶ Orosa, 58.

¹²⁷ Orosa, 58.

¹²⁸ Orosa, 58.

¹²⁹ Orosa, 60.

¹³⁰ Orosa, 58.

¹³¹ Orosa, 59.

Officer - See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Order – See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Order of the Pearl – See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

Paduka – See: Paduka Mahasari Maulana al Sultan; Sarripada.

Paduka Mahasari Maulana al Sultan - This is form of adress to Sultan of Sulu. When the first Musilim Ruler of Sulu, Johore-born explorer and religious scholar Sayyid Abu Bakr Abirin founded Sultanate of Sulu in 1457 AD, he assumed the title “Paduka Mahasari Maulana al Sultan Sharif ul-Hāshim”. See also: Sultan; Majesty.¹³²

Pangholo - This was the office of Sultan’s messenger in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹³³

Panginoon - This title was used for particularly powerful members of Maginoo class in the lowlands of Luzon. Paginoons ruled over a large number of dependents and slaves, owned numerous property, and their lineage was impeccable. The short form of this title, Poon (Punò), is the

¹³² Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu;

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Style_\(manner_of_address\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Style_(manner_of_address)).

¹³³ Orosa, 60.

basis for the modern word for respect in the Tagalog language - pô. Basic meaning of term Poon is “Chief”, or “Leader”. This title was used to determine principal or head of a lineage. For this Poon was used Spanish term Señor (lord). See also: Maginoo.¹³⁴

Panglima – This is region representative within Royal Sultanate of Sulu. Office of Panglima is corresponding with title Tuan (for males), or Sitti (for females). See also: Tuan; Sitti.¹³⁵

Panglima Dalan – Former office in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It was conferred to blood relatives of Sultan.¹³⁶

Pangulo – Datus in Visayas were loosely bound to each other in a federation. Members of a this federation had a leading Datu, who had authority over other Datus. He was usually referred as: Pangulo (“head” or “ruler”), Kaponoan (“most sovereign”), or Makaporos nga Datu (“unifying chief”).¹³⁷

Paragahin – In Visayas, the steward who collected and recorded tributes and taxes and dispensed them among the household and dependents of Datu, was known as the Paragahin. Bearer of this title was also responsible for organizing public feasts and communal work. Paragahin belonged to the Tumao class.¹³⁸

Paramount Chief – See: Lakan.

¹³⁴ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

¹³⁵ Orosa, 11, 24, 58; Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹³⁶ Orosa, 60.

¹³⁷ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>.

¹³⁸ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>.

Paratawag – In Visayan society, the proclamations (mantala) of Datus were delivered to the local population by an person serving as the town Herald. The title of this Herald was Paratawag.¹³⁹

Parkasa – Aide-de-camp of region representative inside Royal Sulu Sultanate. This office is corresponding with title Tuan (for males) or Sitti (for females). See also: Tuan; Sitti.¹⁴⁰

Patik - This was style in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It's meaning was "Your Honour".¹⁴¹

Poon – See: Panginoon.

Potli - Datu, who is of pure royal lineage (for four generations, or more) was known in Visayas as Potli. They are also known as Potli nga Datu, or Lubus nga Datu. See also: Datu.¹⁴²

Potli nga Datu – See: Potli.

Prime Minister – See: Datu Sadja.

¹³⁹ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>.

¹⁴⁰ Orosa, 60; Medvedev, Honours;

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁴¹ Orosa, 61.

¹⁴² <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>.

Prince – See: Datu; Royal Datu.

Princess – See: Dayang Dayang; Binokot.

Principalía – At Phillipine Islands, name Principalía was used during colonial period, refering noble class. It was ruling, and usually educated upper class in the towns of colonial Philippines. Principalía was composed of Gobernadorcillos, and Cabezas de barangay. Gobernadorcillos had functions similar to a town mayor, and Cabezas de barangay were chiefs of the barangays (smallest administrative division at Philippine Islands). Being part of the Principalía was a hereditary right. However, it could also be acquired by royal decision. Their style was Don (for males) and Doña (for females). See also: Gobernadorcillo; Cabezas de barangay.¹⁴³

Privy counselor – See: Atubang sa datu.

Puno – See: Panginoon.

Raja – This was a title of local Ruler or Chief. In Visayas, Pangulo (leading Datu) of some ports with frequent traffic, was sometimes titled: Rajah ("ruler"), Batara ("noble lord"), Sarripada, Salip, Sipad, Paduka, or Salipada (all generated from Sanskrit "Sri Paduka", meaning - "His Highness"). These titles are mostly from Malay or Sanskrit language. Authority of Philippine Rajas usually comes from favorable trade positions, military prowess, lineage, and wealth, rather than royal rule. While they had limited power over other member Datus of their federation based on their renown, they had no direct control over the subjects or lands of the other

¹⁴³ Guillermo, Historical Dictionary, 354; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

Datus. Title Raja was also formerly used in other parts of Southeast Asia, for instance in Sarawak. Alternative spelling is Rajah.¹⁴⁴

Sulu Archipelago, before the arrival of Islam, was inhabited by several peoples, and it was divided in three independent kingdoms. The political and social systems of these kingdoms were characterized by various institutions: rajahship, datuship, tuanship and timwayship. Rajas were Rulers in some of these political entities. The arrival of first Ruler of unified Sulu, Tuan Mashā'ikha, established a core Islamic community in that area, and gradual extinction of Raja as rulership title. See also: Pangulo; Tuan; Datu; Timway.¹⁴⁵

Raja Laut – This was the title of the Secretary of navy of Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of 20th century.¹⁴⁶

Raja Muda - The formally designated heir to the throne in the Sultanate of Sulu. This title was also formerly used in other parts of Southeast Asia, for instance in Sarawak. It is created from old title Raja. See also: Raja; Maharaja Adinda.¹⁴⁷

Current Sultan of Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, HM Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram, was Crown Prince (Raja Muda) in period from 1974. to 2012. Today, Crown Prince of Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo is HM Sultan's eldest son, HRH Raja Muda Mohammad Ehsan S. Kiram. See also: Raja; Maharaja Adinda; Sultan.¹⁴⁸

¹⁴⁴ Sarawak; Medvedev, Honours; Orosa, 61; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raja>.

¹⁴⁵ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁴⁶ Orosa, 58.

¹⁴⁷ Orosa, 58; Sarawak; Medvedev, Honours.

¹⁴⁸ Bačko, About...; Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation.

Rajah – See: Raja.

Royal – See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl; Royal Datu; Royal Highness.

Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl – This is the dynastic Order of the Royal House of Sulu, which serves as the premier premial institution and the highest personal honour of and in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. The Order is an honourable and nobiliary corporation instituted as a dynastic Order of Datuship analogous to traditional dynastic Orders of Chivalry, and is in direct continuation from the ancient customs and distinctions of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu and the Court of the Sultan. Moto of this Order is: “Hakahawpuan Iban Hakahabaan Tiranan” (“At a short and a large distance”).¹⁴⁹

The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl was formally established in June 2011, but it is an institution whose roots are much deeper. When the current Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo, His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram decided to establish a Order, using His sovereign right as "Fons honorum", it was uniting of the royal, nobiliary and chivalrous traditions of Sultanate, in a manner appropriate international standards.¹⁵⁰

Pearl is very important for the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo. On the islands of the Sulu archipelago pearls are collected for centuries in the traditional way. It is believed, that pearls from Sulu are most valuable in the world. For centuries,

¹⁴⁹ Medvedev, Honours; Aleksandar Bačko, „Pearl Knights“ <http://www.czipm.org/biserni-vitezovi-eng.html> (further: Bačko, Pearl Knights); en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl.

¹⁵⁰ Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl; Kimon Alexander Andreou, Heraldic privileges of the Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl, www.czipm.org/heraldic-sulu.html (further: Andreou); Bačko, Pearl Knights.

only the Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo had the right to possess the largest and most valuable pearls found in the archipelago. Although penalties for violators of this law were very harsh, some exceptional pieces found their way to Europe and other destinations by secret channels. Pearls are also of great importance for this country because, for a long time, they are one of the pillars of its economy.¹⁵¹

The term "Hashemite" in the title of Order has its roots in the very foundations Kiram dynasty, as well as the history of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo. This term refers to the ancient Arab clan Hashemites, descendants of Hashim. It is a branch of a larger tribe, the Quraish. From the Hashemite clan originated Prophet Muhammad himself, his daughter Fatima and her husband Ali, the most important personalities of Islam. The roots of this clan are in the region Hejaz in today's Saudi Arabia, near the Red Sea.¹⁵²

Hashemites, in the narrow sense, are descendants of the Prophet Muhammad through his daughter Fatima and her husband Ali. Fatima and Ali had more children, but it is known that four of them came to maturity. These were sons Hasan ibn Ali and Husayn ibn Ali, and daughters Zaynab and Umm Kulthum. Descendants of Fatima and Ali are bearing honorary titles Sayyid (master) and the Sharif (noble).¹⁵³

¹⁵¹ Bačko, Pearl Knights; James Francis Warren, *The Sulu zone 1768 – 1898*, Singapore 2007. (further: Warren), 72 - 74; George Frederick Kunz, Charles Hugh Stevenson, *The book of the pearl*, Toronto 1993. (further: Kunz, Stevenson), 214, 220, 468; Paul C. Southgate, John S. Lucas, *The Pearl Oyster*, 2008. (further: Southgate, Lucas), 25; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pearl.

¹⁵² Hussain al-Mousawi, *The Genealogy of the Prophet Muhammed and the Royal Houses of the Middle East with emphasis on the Hashemite (Alawaite) Kingdoms*, Genealogica & Heraldica Ottawa 1996, Ottawa 1998. (further: Mousawi), 219 - 238; Bernard Reich, *Political Leaders of the Contemporary Middle East and North Africa*, 1990. (further: Reich), 233; David Seddon, *A Political and Economic Dictionary of the Middle East*, London 2004. (further: Seddon), 241; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hashemite; Bačko, Pearl Knights.

¹⁵³ Mousawi, 219 - 238; Reich, 233; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fatimah; Bačko, Pearl Knights.

One of the Dynasties that have Hashemite ancestry is Royal House of Kiram of Sulu and North Borneo. In the first half of the 15th century Sayyid Abubakar Abirin, a prominent explorer and Islamic religious teacher, came to Sulu. He was born in Johor on the Malay Peninsula, and he was of Arabic, respectively of Hashemitic origin. He married Princess Paramisuli and about 1450, after the death of his father in law Raj Baguinde, he founded the Sultanate of Sulu. Said Abubakar Abirin ruler's name was Sharif ul - Hashim. The present Royal House of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, Kiram, descends from him.¹⁵⁴

As mentioned, Hashemites in the narrow sense of the word, or descendants of the Prophet Muhammad through his daughter Fatima, have the right to bear the title Sayyid. In accordance with the traditions of his country, and his Hashemitic origin, His Majesty Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo, bears the title of the Grand Sayyid of the The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl. It is the appropriate title for this function of His Majesty, because it is equivalent to the traditional title of the Grand Master of the Order in English language.¹⁵⁵

The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl is divided into several grades. Highest grade, Royal Companion, is reserved exclusively for members of the current and former ruling houses. Beside this, there are five more grades in the Order: Grand Cordon, Distinguished Companion, Companion,

¹⁵⁴ Ahmad Ibrahim, Sharon Siddique, Yasmin Hussain, Readings on Islam in Southeast Asia, Institute of Southeast Asian studies, Singapore 1985. (further: Ibrahim, Siddique, Hussain), 50 - 55; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_sultans_of_Sulu; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad_Shah_of_Brunei; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muhammad_Hassan; Bačko, Pearl Knights.

¹⁵⁵ Mousawi, 223; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fatimah; Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl; Andreou; Bačko, Pearl Knights.

Officer and Member. This ranking to some extent resembles the ranking of traditional nobility and privileged classes of society in the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo (datu, tuan...), but also the European Royal Orders of Chivalry. Membership in the Order can only be acquired in accordance with the wish and the approval of its Grand Sayyid (Grand Master). With this dynastic Order its Grand Sayyid rewards persons of all nationalities and religions, which were particularly meritorious concerning service, deeds and faithfulness to the Royal House and the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, as well as those, who gained an outstanding international reputation in their field of activity.¹⁵⁶

Among the members of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl there are some leading figures from the royal families, as well as scientists, artists, and other prominent individuals. We are going to mention only a few here: HM King (Omukama) Solomon Iguru I of Bunyoro-Kitara, HM King Kigeli V of Rwanda, HRH Duarte Pio Duke of Breganza "de jure" King of Portugal, HRH David Bagration of Mukhrani Crown Prince of Georgia, HIH Ermias Sahle Selassie Crown Prince of Ethiopia, HIRH Archduke Joseph Karl von Habsburg, HRH Princess Margaret von Hohenberg, HRH Prince Aleksandar Pavlov Karageorgevich, HRH Prince Vladimir Karageorgevich, HRH Princess Jelisaveta Karageorgevich, HRH Princess Brigitta Karageorgevich, HRH Princess Luciana Pallavicini Hassan of Afghanistan, HRH Princess Mahera Hassan of Afghanistan, HRH Prince Ibrahim Osman Rifat, HRH Mohsin Ali Khan of Hyderabad and many other prominent members of the Order.¹⁵⁷

Royal Companion of the Pearl Collar – See: Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.

¹⁵⁶ Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl; Bačko, Pearl Knights.

¹⁵⁷ en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_and_Hashemite_Order_of_the_Pearl; Bačko, Pearl Knights.

Royal Datu – The Royal Datu is the title of the Royal Prince. Synonym for this title is Datu. It is still used in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, and it was in use in Mindanao. See also: Datu.¹⁵⁸

Royal Highness – In the Sultanate of Sulu, princes (Royal Datu, Datu) and Princesses (Dayang Dayang) are entitled to the styles either of Highness, or of Royal Highness. These are well known styles originating from English language. See also: Highness.¹⁵⁹

Ruler – See: Sultan; Datu; Raja.

Sabali – This was the title used within Visayan society. Sabali was the title for a Datu (Prince), who gained his status by marrying a Princess in the Visayas. See also: Datu.¹⁶⁰

Sahibul - This was the title of the police chief of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹⁶¹

Sailama - Title of the inspector of weights and measures within the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹⁶²

Salip – See: Raja.

¹⁵⁸ Medvedev, Honours; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pagadian>.

¹⁵⁹ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁶⁰ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>.

¹⁶¹ Orosa, 59.

¹⁶² Orosa, 59.

Salipada – See: Raja.

Sandil – This was the title used for secondary wives of Datus in Visayan society. Descendants of Datus and Sandils were usually belonging to Tumao class. See also: Datu; Tumao.¹⁶³

Sandig sa Datu – In Visayas, various supporters of the Datu, belonging to Tumao class, are collectively referred to as Sandig sa Datu (meaning: "beside the Datu"). See also: Tumao, Datu.¹⁶⁴

Sarripada – See: Raja.

Satia – Office of a person "intrusted with confidential information" in Sultanate of Sulu, in early years of the 20th century.¹⁶⁵

Sawajan - This was the title of the collector of customs of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹⁶⁶

Sayyid – Most distant known ancestor of the present Royal House of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo, Kiram, was Sayyid Abubakar Abirin. He lived in the first half of the 15th

¹⁶³ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>.

¹⁶⁴ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoos>.

¹⁶⁵ Orosa, 60.

¹⁶⁶ Orosa, 59.

century. Sayyid Abubakar Abirin was a prominent explorer and Islamic religious teacher. He was born in Johor on the Malay Peninsula, and he was of Arabic, respectively of Hashemitic origin. He came to Sulu, and married Princess Paramisuli and, after the death of his father in law Raj Baguinde, he founded the Sultanate of Sulu (about 1450. AD). Sayyid Abubakar Abirin ruler's name was Sharif ul - Hashim. See also: Grand Sayyid; Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl.¹⁶⁷

Secretary General – See: Datu Sadja.

Señor – See: Maginoo; Panginoon.

Sharif – “Paduka Mahasari Maulana al Sultan Sharif ul-Hāshim” was the title of the first Muslim ruler of Sulu, formerly Sayyid Abu Bakr Abirin. See also: Sayyid; Paduka Mahasari Maulana al Sultan.¹⁶⁸

Sheik – This title was attributed to Makhdum Karim, a 14th-century Arab trader. He brought Islam to Sulu, and rest of the Philippine Islands, in 1380. Makhdum Karim established a mosque at Sulu Archipelago (in Tubig Indangan, Simunul, Tawi-Tawi), known as Sheik Karimal Makdum Mosque. This is the oldest mosque in Sulu, as well as at Philippine Islands.¹⁶⁹

Sipad – See: Raja.

¹⁶⁷ Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁶⁸ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁶⁹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Makhdum_Karim;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sheik_Karimal_Makdum_Mosque.

Sitti – This is female equivalent of the title Tuan, with basic meaning “Lady”. Style of Sitti is “Honourable”. This title can be achieved or inherited. Its correspondent offices are: Wakil Kesultanan, Panglima, Parkasa and Laksaman. See also: Tuan; Wakil Kesultanan; Panglima; Parkasa; Laksaman.¹⁷⁰

Sovereign – See: Hereditary Sovereign.

Su-sultanun –See: Datu.

Sultan – This is the title of supreme, Royal Ruler of Sultanate of Sulu. Sayyid Abu Bakr Abirin was the first Muslim ruler of Sulu. When he founded Sultanate of Sulu, he assumed the title “Paduka Mahasari Maulana al Sultan Sharif ul-Hāshim”. Title of Sultan was also used historically in some other parts of the Philippine Archipelago.¹⁷¹

Certainly one of the most important and most frequent royal titles in countries with deeply rooted Islamic traditions is the title of Sultan. This title comes from the Arabic language and is derived from the term "sultah", meaning "authority" or "power". In the region of Sulu archipelago it has been present since the mid-15th century.¹⁷²

Since 16th September 2012, His Majesty Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram is the 35th Sultan of the Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo. Formerly, His Majesty was Crown Prince (Raja Muda).¹⁷³

¹⁷⁰ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁷¹ Orosa, 58; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁷² Juan Eduardo Campo, *Encyclopedia of Islam*, New York 2009. (further: Campo), 643; en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultan; Bačko, Pearl Knights.

¹⁷³ Bačko, About...; Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation.

Great Regnal Title of current Sultan of Sulu is: His Majesty Ampun Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram 35th Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo Head of the Royal House of The Sultanate of Sulu and North Borneo Grand Sayyid and Hereditary Sovereign of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl etc. etc.¹⁷⁴

Timagua – See: Timawa.

Timawa – This was name for the “second order”, the Vassals, in Visayas. They bind themselves to the Datu as his seafaring warriors. Timawas paid no tribute, and rendered no agricultural labor. Some of their ancestors were Datus. In the Boxer Codex Timawas are mentioned as knights and hidalgos. The Spanish conquistador, Miguel de Loarca, described members of this class as “free men, neither chiefs nor slaves”. In the late 17th century, the Spanish Jesuit priest Fr. Francisco Ignacio Alcina, classified Timawas as the third rank of nobility (“nobleza”). In Spanish, this class is called Timagua. It is very similar to Maharlika class of Tagalog society in the lowlands of Luzon. See also: Maharlika.¹⁷⁵

Timway – This was the title of the traditional Chief within some of Philippine Islands. Before the arrival of Islam, Sulu Islands were inhabited by several distinct cultures. It was divided in three independent kingdoms, which were ruled by the Buranun, Tagimaha, and Baklaya peoples. The political systems of these kingdoms were characterized by distinct institutions: rajahship, datuship, tuanship and timwayship.¹⁷⁶

¹⁷⁴ Bačko, Pearl Knights; Sultanate of Sulu – official internet presentation.

¹⁷⁵ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timawa>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>; Medvedev, Honours.

¹⁷⁶ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

At Sulu Islands, certain Timway Orangkaya Su'il was mentioned, as he received four Bisaya slaves from Manila (presumably Kingdom of Tondo). It was a sign of friendship between the two countries. The descendants of Timway Orangkaya Su'il inherited the title Timway. After the arrival of first Ruler of united Sulu, Tuan Mashā'ikha, the title of Timway gradually expired from this islands.¹⁷⁷

Tuan – Title with basic meaning: "lord", "powerful master", or "master". Today, it is the title of the Minor Titled Nobility in the Sultanate of Sulu. Its female equivalent is title Sitti. Style of Tuan is "Honourable". This title can be achieved or inherited. Its correspondent offices are: Wakil Kesultanan, Panglima, Parkasa and Laksaman.¹⁷⁸

Sulu Archipelago, before the arrival of Islam, was inhabited by several cultures. It was divided in three independent kingdoms, which were ruled by the Buranun, Tagimaha, and Baklaya peoples. The political systems of these kingdoms were characterized by distinct institutions: rajahship, datuship, tuanship and timwayship. The arrival of first Ruler of united Sulu, Tuan Mashā'ikha, established a core Islamic community in the island.¹⁷⁹

First Rulers of united Sulu were bearing title Tuan. Descendant of Tuan Mashā'ikha (died in 1310 AD) was Tuan May. He had a son, named Datu Tka. The descendants of Tuan May did not assume the title Tuan, instead, they started to use title Datu. It is the first known time, that title Datu was used as a political institution in Sulu.¹⁸⁰

¹⁷⁷ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁷⁸ Orosa, 61; Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁷⁹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁸⁰ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

The title of Tuan was also formerly used in other parts of Southeast Asia, for instance in Sarawak (Borneo Island). See also: Sitti; Wakil Kesultanan; Panglima; Parkasa; Laksaman.¹⁸¹

Tumangung – This was the title of the “usher and sargent of arms” of the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹⁸²

Tumao - This is nobility social class among Visayan people at Philippine Islands. It is similar to Maginoo class (lowlands of Luzon), or Ginu class (Kapampangan people). See also: Maginoo; Ginu; Kadatoan.¹⁸³

Ulangkaya - This was the rank of the lieutenant in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu, in the beginning of the 20th century.¹⁸⁴

Ulangkaya Digadong – This was former office in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It was conferred to blood relatives of Sultan.¹⁸⁵

Ulankaya Malik – Former office in the Royal Sultanate of Sulu. It was conferred to blood relatives of Sultan.¹⁸⁶

Untitled Nobility – In the Sultanate of Sulu, persons who descend from the Datus, Tuans, or of the old Maharlika class in a male line, are belonging to the Untitled Nobility. Also,

¹⁸¹ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.

¹⁸² Orosa, 58.

¹⁸³ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maginoo>.

¹⁸⁴ Orosa, 59.

¹⁸⁵ Orosa, 60.

¹⁸⁶ Orosa, 60.

by an implication, to the Untitled Nobility are belonging those, who formerly occupied an ennobling office and left it honourably. This category is mostly history-oriented. See also: Datu; Tuan; Maharlika.¹⁸⁷

Uray – In Visayas, woman of noble lineage (especially the elderly) was addressed as Uray (meaning of this term is: pure as gold). Male counterpart of title is Potli. See also: Potli.¹⁸⁸

Vassals – See: Timawa; Maharlika.

Wakil Kesultanan – Office of a Sulu Royal representative abroad (region representative outside the Royal Sulu Sultanate). This office is corresponding with title Tuan (for males) or Sitti (for females). See also: Tuan; Sitti.¹⁸⁹

Wazir – See: Datu Sadja.

¹⁸⁷ Medvedev, Honours.

¹⁸⁸ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Principalia>.

¹⁸⁹ Medvedev, Honours; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultanate_of_Sulu.



His Majesty Ampun Sultan Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram
35th Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo
Head of the Royal House of The Sultanate of Sulu
and North Borneo etc. etc.

РЕЗИМЕ
(SUMMARY IN SERBIAN)

Султанат Сулу и Северни Борнео је током готово целокупне своје историје био лоциран на острву Холо, делу Борнеа и бројним другим острвима, чинећи најјужнији део Филипинског архипелага и најсевернији део Борнеа.

Његова историја је изузетна. Султанат Сулу и Северни Борнео основан је током 15. века, а остао је независан све до 20. века. Током наведеног периода, у овом Султанату су владали чланови исте династије, која је постала позната под презименом Кирам.

Садашњи Старешина Краљевског Дома Султаната Сулу и Северни Борнео је Његово Величанство Султан Муедзул Лаил Тан Кирам, 35. Султан Сулуа и Северног Борнеа, Старешина и Наследни Суверен Краљевског и Хашемитског Реда Бисера.

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NOTE ABOUT AUTHOR

Aleksandar Bačko is a writer, journalist and genealogist from Belgrade, Serbia.

Biography

Aleksandar Bačko (Serbian Cyrillic: Александар Бачко) is born in Belgrade, Serbia, on August 15th 1972. His father is Vladimir Bačko, and mother Zorica (born Cakić). His daughters are Katarina and Jovana Bačko. Aleksandar's wife is Dragana, born Grubor.

Primary and high school Aleksandar Bačko graduated in Belgrade, where he have studied at Faculty of philosophy (department of history). Origins of Bačko family are in Kninska Krajina (Knin Frontier). Aleksandar's great-grandfather Vojin Bačko was a teacher in Knin, Radučić and Žegar.

Aleksandar Bačko is also descendent of Nikanor Grujić, Orthodox Bishop of Pakrac and Locum Tenens Serbian Patriarch, by his brother Dragutin Grujić, Archpriest of Mohacs, Parish Priest of Kacsfalú and Assessor of Buda Bishopric Consistory. Nikanor Grujić (1810 – 1887) was a Serbian Orthodox Bishop of Pakrac and Administrator of Metropolitanate – Patriarchate of Karlovci, Knight Grand Cross of The Order of Franz Joseph, Acting Imperial Privy Councillor and a Member of The House of Magnates of Hungarian and Croatian – Slavonian Parliament. He was also a prominent poet and writer, as well as a participant in the May Assembly at Sremski Karlovci, in 1848.

Royal awards and appointments

(Knight) Officer of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl of The Royal Sultanate of Sulu. Appointed by the decree of HM Muedzul Lail Tan Kiram, Sultan of Sulu and North Borneo (then Crown Prince), 30. August 2012. During 2014, he became (Knight) Companion of the same Order.

Aleksandar Bačko was appointed during 2015, as Lord Registrar at Chancellery of The Royal and Hashemite Order of the Pearl of The Royal Sultanate of Sulu.

Aleksandar Bačko is Sub-County Chief (Omugomborosi) to North Serbia (Belgrade and Vojvodina) of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom. Appointed by decree of HM Rukirabasaija Agutamba Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I Omukama (King) Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom, 15. January 2012.

Memberships and offices in organizations under the Dynastic patronage

Member of the Board for Heraldic and Genealogical studies of „The Center for Research of Orthodox Monarchism“, under the high patronage of HRH Prince Aleksandar Pavlov Karađorđević and spiritual patronage of His Excellency Irinej (Dobrijević).

Member of the „Association of Representatives of the Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom CLBG (ARKBK)“ under the Royal patronage of HM Rukirabasaija Agutamba Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I Omukama (King) Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom, since 4. February 2012.

Member of the Executive Board of the „Kingdom of Serbia Association“ under the Royal patronage of HRH Crown Prince Alexander II Karađorđević, since 26 February 2013.

Chief of the Committee for newsletter of the Executive Board of the „Kingdom of Serbia Association“ under the Royal patronage of HRH Crown Prince Alexander II Karađorđević, since 26. February 2013.

Professional awards

Laureate of „Mile Nedeljković“ award in 2010, issued for best contemporary folkloristics book in Serbian in 2010. It is awarded by the Association of Citizens “Heritage and Future – Aranđelovac 1859”, under patronage of Aranđelovac Municipality and with support of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia.

Bearer of the Medal „For Contribution to The Development of Genealogy and Other Special Historical Disciplines“ II Degree (За вкладъ въ развитіе генеалогіи и прочихъ спеціальныхъ историческихъ дисциплинъ) of The Russian Genealogical Federation (Российская генеалогическая федерация). The medal is awarded the President of The Russian Genealogical Federation, H.E. Noble Stanislav Vladimirovich Dumin, 21. December 2012.

Awards of Cossack organizations

Bearer of the Medal „Protector of the Russian land – Alexander Nevsky“ (Защитнику земли Русской Александр Невский) Baltic separate Cossack District – Cossack Union of Baltic Area

(Балтийский отдельный казачий округ – Балтийский казачий союз, БОКО – БКС). The medal is awarded by Ataman of BOKO – BKS, Cossack Colonel Sergei Nikolaevich Danilevsky, 4. August 2012.

Memberships and offices in professional and other organizations

Member of Management Board of Association of citizens “Serbian Despot”, since 1. September 2003.

Member of Association of Journalists of Serbia (Удружење новинара Србије) since 2003.

President of Management Board of Association of citizens “Serbian Despot”, between 7 March 2004. and 27. February 2005.

President of Association of citizens “Serbian Despot” (Удружење грађана „Српски деспот“) from 27. February 2005, to 21. November 2008.

Founding member of Society for economic history (Друштво за привредну историју), since 17. June 2008.

Member of Mensa Serbia since 2009.

Member of the Union of writers in homeland and diaspora (SKOR) since 2012.

Member of Serbian Geographical Society since 2012.

Member of Society of Authors “Poet” since 13. August 2012.

Member of Supervisory Board of Society for economic history since 22. February 2013.

Honorary Member of The Society of Serbian Armigers, under the patronage of His Grace The Right Reverend k.k. Irinej (Dobrijević), Serbian Orthodox Bishop of Australia and New Zealand, since June 2013.

Professional engagement

Founder and editor of edition Series of Serbian ethnography and history (Зборник за српску етнографију и историју), since 7. October 2007.

Editor of internet presentation Serbian DNA (Српска ДНК), first internet presentation for Serbian genetic genealogy.

Member of Editorial board of internet presentation Serbian Despot (Српски деспот).

Member of Editorial board of internet presentation Maleševci (Малешевци) (Editor is Mr. Milorad Ćustić).

He writes monographies and texts about history of certain settlements, origin of population and families. His works consider ethnographical, historical and genetic genealogy research.

Bibliography

Nine of his books have been published until now:

Mali Mokri Lug, Faculty of philosophy, Department for ethnology and anthropology, Ethno – anthropological issues – monography, vol. 28, Belgrade 2005, pages 1 – 187 (in Serbian: Мали Мокри Луг)

Žegar – origin of inhabitants, Faculty of philosophy, Department for ethnology and anthropology, Ethno – anthropological issues – monography, vol. 29, Belgrade 2005, pages 1 – 226 (in Serbian: Жегар – порекло становништва)

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Dalmatian Serb families, Association of citizens “Serbian despot”, Series of Serbian ethnography and history, vol. 2, Belgrade 2008, pages 1 – 513 (in Serbian: Породице далматинских Срба)

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Krupa and Golubić in Dalmatia, Series of Serbian ethnography and history, vol. 4, Belgrade 2010, pages 1 – 355 (in Serbian: Крупа и Голубић у Далмацији) Coauthor Veljko Kubat

Clans with family feast on Saint Thomas day – Genetic and ethnographical research, Series of Serbian ethnography and history, vol. 5, Belgrade 2010, pages 1 – 282 (in Serbian: Родови који славе св. Тому) Coauthor Dragiša Maksimović

Beomužević and Stapar near Valjevo – About some families in Tamnava, Podgorina and Kolubara regions, Series of Serbian ethnography and history, vol. 6, Belgrade 2011, pages 1 – 214

(in Serbian: Беомужевић и Стапар код Ваљева – О појединим породицама тамнавског, подгорског и колубарског краја), coauthor Milorad Ćustić

Notes about connections between the Serbs and the Russian Empire, Series of Serbian ethnography and history, vol. 7, Belgrade 2015, pages 1 – 209 (in Serbian: Белешке о везама између Срба и Руске Империје) (electronic book)

Bačko is also author of certain number of texts, which are published in different media. Among them are: Relatives of Karađorđević Family (in Serbian: Сродници Карађорђевића), Ancestry of Bishop Nikolaj Velimirović (in Serbian: Порекло владике Николаја Велимировића), About Serbs of Imotska Krajina (О Србима Имотске Крајине) and other.

Some of his works have been translated into English and Russian.

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